

Weans World Child Minding

Coatbridge

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
10 October 2022

Service provided by:
Geraldine Duffy

Service provider number:
SP2010978192

Service no:
CS2010249674

About the service

Weans World childminding service is provided from the childminder's home in a residential area of Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire. The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of six will be under 12, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months.

When an assistant is present, the childminder can provide a care service to a maximum of seven children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of seven will be under 12, of whom no more than four are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months.

The service is close to local schools, shops, parks and main transport links. The children are cared for in the ground floor of the property, where they can access the living room, bathroom, kitchen and hall. Children also have access to a secure garden and summer house to the rear of the property.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 10 October 2022 between 10:00 and 12:30. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate. To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection. In making our evaluations of the service we:

- Spoke with two people using the service and six of their family members
- Spoke with the childminder and their assistant
- Observed practice and daily life
- Reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children were happy, settled and loved in the childminder's care.
- Play experiences were fun, and met children's interests and stage of development.
- Families were involved in all decisions about their child's care.
- Children received care in a safe and clean environment.
- The childminder and their assistant worked very well together, creating a welcoming environment for children and families.
- The childminder and their assistant were skilled and knowledgeable to provide high quality care and support.
- Play could be further enhanced by routinely including sensory experiences that promote curiosity, creativity and problem solving.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care, play and learning?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

1.1 Nurturing care and support

Children attending the service were settled, happy and loved. They received nurturing care and support from the childminder and their assistant who knew children well and offered lots of cuddles, praise and encouragement. One parent commented "Our child has flourished under the care of Weans World childminding, they are settled, comfortable and happy when they attend." Another added, "The care they provide is very person centred, and my child has a fantastic bond with them both and feels very safe and happy in their care."

The childminder worked closely with families to involve them in decisions about their child's care and development. Regular communication with parents and carers ensured that information was gathered that supported meeting children's needs. This was reflected in children's personal plans, which were supporting them to achieve. Parents commended the way their children's needs were met, stating "My child's needs are met and exceeded", "Health, wellbeing and learning is always promoted at all times", and "My child is transforming in their care."

Children's nappies were changed sensitively in response to their needs. Their dignity was protected as they were changed out of sight of other children, helping them feel secure and confident. The childminder wore gloves and an apron during nappy changing to prevent the potential spread of infection.

To support children's wellbeing, they had the opportunity to sleep and rest when needed. The childminder checked on sleeping children regularly to ensure their safety.

Children were learning about healthy lifestyles during play. For example, pretending to cook in the toy kitchen. This was promoting positive ideas around healthy eating, setting foundations for a healthy life. Children helped themselves to fruit when hungry, and water was available at all times to ensure children were hydrated. Parents confirmed that they were happy with the snacks the service provided.

1.3 Play and Learning

Children had fun as they participated in high quality play and learning that promoted their development. For example, learning about numeracy during hide and seek, sorting and matching, reading, singing, imaginative play with small vehicles, and pretending to cook.

The childminder and their assistant were focused on children during play. They sensitively interacted in a way that extended children's learning. For example, by making suggestions, and asking questions. They also had a great sense of humour and laughed with children, promoting joyful play that built children's self-esteem and confidence. Parents agreed and commented, "My child has experienced lots of fun, laughter and life skills" and "The quality of children's play and learning is where Chris and Geraldine shine."

Children's health and wellbeing was promoted through regular outdoor play. The garden was well stocked with a range of physical apparatus that supported children to run, climb and balance. The inclusion of a mud kitchen promoted some curious play. We discussed with the childminder how this could be further developed to support children's creativity, curiosity and problem solving.

The childminder and their assistant had participated in learning that had enhanced their understanding of child development. This had impacted positively on the quality of children's experiences, and had supported a child led approach to play which encouraged independence and choice.

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

2.2 Children experience high quality facilities

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided, and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

Children received care in a homely and comfortable environment. The living room was bright, spacious and well ventilated, creating a welcoming environment for children and their families. The recent addition of a well equipped summer house provided additional space to play, and supported children to move independently between indoors and outdoors. Parents said "The home and summer house are both in immaculate condition and are a very welcoming, safe and nurturing environment."

Photographs of children were displayed attractively in the summer house. This helped them feel included and celebrated their successes. Children also had their own drawer to store their belongings.

Children had the opportunity to relax and refresh as needed. They especially liked rocking on the large armchair in the living room, feeling a sense of security and comfort.

Toys and materials reflected children's interests and stages of development. They were easily accessible, helping children make choices about their play, and develop their ideas. Children were able to transport toys throughout the home, and use them flexibly to achieve their goals. For example, using a musical piano mat to hide behind.

Children received care in a safe environment that was secure and well maintained. Several control measures, including safe storage of hazardous materials, and secure entry to the premises, protected children from harm. Families commented "I know my child is safe while they are in their care" and "The environment is very safe, with appropriate safe guarding in place at the property."

Infection prevention and control practices minimised the potential spread of infection, creating a safe environment for children. Handwashing was embedded in practice, and children benefited from being able to access a handwashing station outside as well as indoors. Parents confirmed "The home is always spotless" and "The home is clean and maintained to a high standard."

How good is our leadership?

5 - Very Good

3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are well led

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

The aims of the service reflected the needs of children and their families. The emphasis placed on ensuring a warm and friendly environment was particularly appreciated by parents. They commented, "I love the remarkably friendly service" and "The personal touch is so important to us. We feel like we are leaving our child with trusted immediate family members."

Information about the service was shared regularly with parents and carers. This included a detailed handbook when children first joined the setting, followed by updates to policies as practice changed. This meant that families were well informed about how their child's care was provided. Parents said communication was "excellent, effective, outstanding and regular."

The views of children and their families were sought regularly to support developments of the service. This was done informally through daily chats, but also included formal feedback through questionnaires. Information was collected at key times to ensure changes to practice met families needs. For example, gathering feedback about how well children's needs were being met through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Self-evaluation supported the delivery of high quality care and support. The childminder used best practice guidance to reflect on the quality of children's care, identifying strengths and areas for improvement. To further enhance the impact of self-evaluation, the childminder should consider developing improvement action points. We signposted the childminder to the improvement section of the Care Inspectorate HUB to support a deeper understanding of improvement cycles.

The childminder was committed to the ongoing improvement of the service. This was demonstrated in the wide variety of training that the childminder and their assistant had undertaken. Children's play, care and learning was underpinned by current best practice.

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

4.3 Staff deployment

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

The childminder and their assistant worked exceptionally well together. They were attuned to children's needs and worked consistently to ensure that children experienced stability in their care. Parents told us "Communication between Chris and Geraldine is fantastic. Anything we ever speak about with each of them will be communicated to the other."

The childminder and their assistant were enthusiastic about their roles. They were committed to ensuring that all children attending the service were happy and secure. This was reflected in their nurturing, kind and compassionate interactions with children. They had created a happy environment that was filled with love, chatter and laughter.

Deployment took account of children's needs. Children were always supervised for their safety, and had a carer available to respond to their needs, wishes and choices.

Both the childminder and their assistant had attended training that supported meeting children's needs. For example, first aid and infection control. The childminder had participated in additional learning, and shared this with the assistant to support improvements to practice that impacted positively on outcomes for children.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.3 Staff deployment	5 - Very Good

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