

Jenni's Childminding Services Child Minding

Bonnyrigg

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
31 October 2022

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2015987061

Service no:
CS2015338475

About the service

Jennifer Gibson trading as Jenni's childminding service provides a childminding service from her home in Bonnyrigg, Midlothian. The childminder is registered to provide a care service for a maximum of 6 children up to 16 years of age.

The service is close to the local primary school, a play park and other amenities, such as a woodland area. The children are cared for in the living room and have supervised access to the family bathroom. There is an enclosed back garden.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 31 October 2022 at 11:45am. The inspection was carried out by one inspectors 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 a number of people using the service and a number of their family
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents

Key messages

- Children experience a warm, nurturing care and interactions.
- Children enjoy a range of activities, including outings in the local community
- Children's mealtimes are sociable and enjoyable
- The childminder had identified the need to increase the range of natural and open ended resources to support children's developing curiosity and imagination
- The childminder has developed children's personal plans to support their care and development

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?	4 - Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	4 - 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?

4 - Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as good, where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality Indicator 1.1 Nurturing Care and Support

We evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

The childminder provided warm and nurturing interactions. Children were supported in their play because the childminder understood the benefits of interacting and playing at their level. It was clear that strong bonds had been established between the children and childminder.

The childminder had awareness of each individual child's needs and confidently described how they supported children's personal preferences and routines. They had good knowledge about individual families and parents shared with us that they had developed a good relationship with the childminder. The majority of parents stated that communication was effective, but another shared that communication was not as good as it used to be. The childminder should continue to develop ways to share daily information and children's progress with families. Individual folders showed children's progress, success and achievements. The childminder included information on how targets would be supported and included strategies to support learning, development and basic evaluations of progression. Parents stated "I receive feedback when I collect my child and from the outset I was asked what type of things I would want to hear about and this has tailored the updates to suit my needs. She has always been engaging and has offered me parental advice when I have come to her with a query" and "I receive feedback verbally each day when we collect the children and we discuss what they've done and what they plan on doing the next day".

Children's independence skills were being promoted because the entrance hall was organised to provide child height coat pegs and a shoe store. This encouraged children to change their own coats and shoes for indoor or outdoor play.

Children's mealtimes were relaxed and sociable. The children were seated together at the table to enjoy a cooked meal for lunch. The childminder gave appropriate assistance to children and encouraged them to help each other. Children's preferences were respected, for example the children choose to have homemade pizza for lunch. Mealtimes were a pleasant, sociable experience for children.

Children did not sleep during the inspection and the childminder spoke of them napping while out in the buggy. They had provided a travel cot when necessary. We discussed 'Safe Sleep Scotland' guidelines that recommend children lie flat to sleep and spoke about guidelines and promoting the best for the health and safety of children.

Children were protected by the accurate recording of medication, accidents and incidents, which were shared with parents. Clear policies and procedures were in place to protect children from harm. The childminder understood the role they played in keeping children safe and had developed this by undertaking Child Protection training.

1.3 Play and Learning

Children were able to choose how they spent their time and what they played with. A range of resources encouraged children to develop a good mix of skills. The childminder encouraged children to select toys and tidy away when they were finished, promoting independence and responsibility.

There were few natural or real life items for children to investigate. The childminder had reviewed the resources on offer and had identified that they needed to add more loose part objects to promote curiosity and imagination.

Play experiences gave children opportunities to develop language, literacy and numeracy. The childminder chatted to the children, using vocabulary-rich language. They used praise and humour to encourage children to join in. Opportunities for children's learning were built in to daily routines and interactions.

Children experienced regular outings within the local and wider community. Local playparks and woodland provided opportunities for active play and exploration. A group of childminders and their minded children met up regularly. This helped children to socialise and enjoy a range of experiences. Parents stated "the children go to a toddler club that she has created with other childminders in the area" and "children go out every day".

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as good, where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

Children were cared for in a comfortable environment. The living room was the main area children used and although not a large room, children still had space to play and move around. Sofas gave children a place to relax and we saw children were comfortable and happy in the setting.

Children accessed a variety of age appropriate toys. Building blocks, cars and trains were provided for the children. Plenty of resources including crafts and reading books provided a variety of experiences for all ages. One parent stated "Children took part in a Gruffalo Hunt and pumpkin hunt and they go to a group where I'm sure my child does messy play and also went to book bug. But I'm not sure what other activities he takes part in". Another parent added "There is a mountain of toys, books, and games for the children to play and learn with. There are also nearby play parks, walks and places of interest. My child also takes part in arts and crafts; we have had some very special handmade/ painted cards and gifts which were truly lovely to receive".

The childminder had appropriate infection prevention and control measures in place, supporting health and wellbeing. Hand hygiene routines were clearly established and part of everyday routines for the child being minded at the time of the inspection. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and personal care items were tidily stored to be close at hand.

Children's records were securely stored. Children's information was filed in individual folders and stored in a cupboard, helping to protect confidentiality.

How good is our leadership?

4 - Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as good, where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality Indicator 3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well

Children and families using this service were supported by a warm, compassionate and responsive childminder. Parents told us they were very happy with the care and support their children received. They advised that they felt able to approach the childminder at any time to discuss their children's care and development. A parent stated "She has helped me as a first-time parent more than my immediate family. She has helped raise my child to become the person they are today. She shows a genuine interest in what my child gets up to when they are not with her, this means the world to me".

The childminder demonstrated a good understanding of child development, evident in their provision of activities for a diverse age range. A parent commented that they received "texts and pictures throughout the day of the activities they have been up to which range in a variety of things from visiting Dobbies, playing outside, being in the park, they go out for walks, meet up with other child minders giving my child social interaction with other kids her age".

Parents were encouraged to share their views, feedback questionnaires had been used to gain suggestions and ideas from parents. Although, only one had been returned, the childminder agreed to continue to develop how they collect regular feedback and suggestions to help identify areas for improvement and inform changes to the service. A parent stated "My childminder is amazing and has provided the best service possible, we are very lucky that she is a part of my child's life" and "My childminder is very accommodating and will always try and help us out if we are stuck for childcare".

The childminder had begun to informally evaluate her service and identify areas for improvement. Although not recorded we discussed the plans in place which included reviewing the toys and expanding the range of loose parts and natural resources available. The childminder also wished to participate in outdoor training and develop her skills and expertise in this type of play and learning. We encouraged the childminder to continue to self-evaluate and plan improvements to the service, taking into account the: Care Inspectorate's Quality Framework to support high quality experiences for children.

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as very good, where we found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these support positive outcomes for children.

Quality Indicator 4.1 : Staff skills, knowledge and values

Children benefitted from the childminder's nurturing approach. They used their knowledge of child development to adapt their approach to the children's stages of development and recognised the importance of meeting children's wellbeing needs. They were aware of guidance documents such as: 'Realising the ambition - Being Me' to support good practice in promoting positive outcomes for children. The childminder's enabling attitude supported children to thrive and achieve.

The childminder was a qualified teacher and this supported their knowledge and ability to make improvements to practice. We found that the childminder had participated in a range of training

opportunities to develop her professional knowledge. She has agreed to implement the learning from these courses to help develop children's individual need

The childminder kept updated with best practice and legislation through communications from the Care Inspectorate and the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA). We reminded the childminder that the Care Inspectorate Hub was available and contained all best practice and legislation.

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?	4 - Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	4 - Good
1.4 Family engagement	4 - Good

How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good

How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	4 - Good

How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.1 Staff skills, knowledge and values	5 - Very Good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

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