

Thompson, Michelle

Child Minding

Bathgate

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
30 September 2025

Service provided by:
Michelle Thompson

Service provider number:
SP2007964350

Service no:
CS2007145435

About the service

Michelle Thompson provides a childminding service from their terraced house, in Bathgate, West Lothian. The childminder may care for a maximum of 7 children at any one time up to 16 years of age: of whom no more than 6 are under 12 years; of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and; of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers include the children of the childminder's family/household. Specific time-limited conditions have been approved to meet individual circumstances for a few children not yet attending primary school. More information can be found on our website at www.careinspectorate.com.

The service is close to local amenities, school and parks. Children are cared for downstairs and have access to the kitchen, living room and can use the toilet upstairs. Children also have access to an enclosed garden to the rear of the property.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced follow up inspection which took place on 30 September 2025 between 13:30 and 14:15. 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, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- observed three minded children present
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children were safe as the childminder was adhering to their conditions of registration.
- Limited progress had been made in relation to the areas for improvement, they remain in place and will be followed up at next inspection.

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Requirements

Requirement 1

By 8 August 2025 the provider must comply with their conditions of registration detailed on their certificate to ensure children are kept safe by maintaining their registered numbers and keep accurate records of children's attendance.

This is in order to comply with section 64(1)(b) and (3)(a) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standard (HSCS) which state that 'I am protected from harm, neglect, abuse, bullying and exploitation by people who have a clear understanding of their responsibilities' (HSCS 3.20).

This requirement was made on 11 July 2025.

Action taken on previous requirement

Children were safe as the childminder was complying with their conditions of registration detailed on their certificate. Records of children's attendance were in place.

Met - within timescales

What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

Areas for improvement

Previous area for improvement 1

The childminder should review and update the service's medication policy and procedures to ensure they are fully aligned with current best practice guidance. This should include clear, accurate documentation and safe processes for administration, and recording of medication.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS), which state: "Any treatment or intervention that I experience is safe and effective." (HSCS 1.24), and "I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice." (HSCS 4.11)

This area for improvement was made on 11 July 2025.

Action taken since then

The childminder had not yet actioned this area for improvement, therefore it will be continued.

This area for improvement has not been met and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 2

To ensure children are supported to reach their full potential, the childminder should develop personal planning which captures children's developmental progress and identify next steps in learning. This is to ensure that children's needs are planned and met. To achieve this, plans should include, but not limited to:

- set out how children's needs will be met
- record how children have progressed
- be put in place within 28 days of a child starting at the service
- be reviewed every six months or more often if the child's needs change
- be shared and updated with children, parents and carers.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS), which state that: 'As child, my personal plan (sometimes referred to as a care plan) is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices' (HSCS 1.15).

This area for improvement was made on 19 April 2024.

Action taken since then

Personal plans were in place and detailed children's needs. However, some personal plans had not been updated for a significant period of time. Records of how children have progressed had been developed and shared with parents.

This area for improvement has not been met and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 3

To support children's health and wellbeing, the childminder should ensure that effective infection prevention and control practices are in place. This should include but not limited to ensuring effective hand washing routines are implemented and established for all children

This is to ensure that infection prevention and control practices are consistent with the Public Health Scotland document: Health protection in children and young people settings, including education (2024).

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice' (HSCS 4.11).

This area for improvement was made on 19 April 2024.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 4

To improve outcomes for children, self-evaluation should be developed. The childminder should become familiar with best practice guidance and use this to support her to reflect and plan for continuous improvement.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes' (HSCS 3.14).

This area for improvement was made on 19 April 2024.

Action taken since then

The childminder had not yet actioned this area for improvement, therefore it will be continued.

This area for improvement has not been met and remains in place.

Complaints

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

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