

Ribeiro Halm, Raquel

Child Minding

Aberdeen

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
17 February 2026

Service provided by:
Raquel Ribeiro Halm

Service provider number:
SP2016987861

Service no:
CS2016345786

About the service

Raquel Ribeiro Halm provides a childminding service from their home in the Kittybrewster area of Aberdeen. The childminder employs an assistant, who was not working in the service at the time of the inspection.

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time. One child was registered with the service at the time of the inspection.

The service is provided on the ground floor of the property. Children are cared for in the living room, dining kitchen and have easy access to an enclosed garden. The service is near a bus route, local shops and facilities.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place between 10:00 and 12:15 on 17 February 2026. 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 and complaints information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered throughout the inspection year.

To inform our evaluation we:

- spent time with one child using the service
- received one completed feedback questionnaire
- spoke with the childminder
- assessed core assurances, including the physical environment
- observed practice and children's experiences
- reviewed documents.

As part of our inspections, we assess core assurances. Core assurances are checks we make to ensure children are safe, the physical environment is well maintained and that a service is operating legally. At the time of this inspection, no improvements were identified relating to core assurances.

During this inspection we gathered specific information to help us understand more about how services support children's safety, wellbeing and engagement in their play and learning.

This included reviewing the following aspects:

- staff deployment
- safety of the physical environment, indoors and outdoors
- the quality of personal plans and how well children's needs are being met
- children's engagement with the experiences provided in their setting.

This information will be anonymised and analysed to help inform our future work with services.

Key messages

- Children experienced positive, nurturing relationships which contributed to them feeling safe, secure and valued.
- The experienced childminder used professional development to inform their practice in providing positive experiences for children.
- Children were cared for in a service with a strong ethos of continuous improvement.
- The childminder's flexible approach promoted individualised experiences for children.
- Children were able to follow their interests as they enjoyed play.

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

Leadership	5 - Very Good
Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good

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

Leadership 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

Leadership and management of staff and resources

Children were cared for in a service with a clear vision, values and aims, which were reflected in the childminder's enabling, inclusive practice. Families were provided with relevant policies and service information, helping them understand what to expect. The childminder regularly reviewed all information to ensure it remained current. We encouraged them to involve parents and, where appropriate, children in future reviews so that their views continue to help influence service development.

The childminder demonstrated an ethos of continuous improvement. Evaluations of children's experiences had led to positive changes such as, the creation of a story corner to support children's enjoyment of books. Parents confirmed they had regular opportunities to provide feedback and make suggestions. Although the childminder's approach to self-evaluation was informal, they had identified meaningful improvements and planned to introduce a more robust system to support ongoing development. The childminder was receptive to the inspection process and welcomed any suggestions for improvement. They were mindful of how their own experiences and values could shape practice, demonstrating an awareness of the importance of following professional guidance to support positive experiences and outcomes for children.

The childminder employed an assistant, who had been recruited safely and was supported through regular opportunities for professional learning. The childminder shared their own learning from an ongoing professional qualification and accessed further training opportunities for both themselves and the assistant. These actions contributed to consistently high quality practice and positive outcomes for children.

Children play and learn 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

Playing, learning and developing

Children benefitted from a choice of interesting resources that reflected their interests. These included, marbles, magnetic tiles, board games and sensory materials including playdough. The childminder recognised and supported children's individual play patterns and joined their play appropriately, helping sustain engagement for extended periods.

Parents told us they were pleased that their children had regular opportunities in the local community such as, attending playgroup and visiting a soft play centre. These experiences enhanced children's play and learning, offering opportunities to socialise and explore.

Learning opportunities were meaningfully embedded throughout the day. For example, the childminder chatted to children, counting and discussing shapes and colours and skilfully supporting them to problem solve. A selection of age-appropriate books was readily available. As a result, children were well supported to develop language, numeracy and early literacy skills.

Children's play and learning benefitted from the childminder's flexible, child centred practice. They responded sensitively to children's cues, offering support or suggestions at appropriate times. Thoughtful questioning encouraged children to expand their thinking, contributing to sustained and meaningful play.

Play experiences were personalised and planned to reflect each child's needs and preferences. Children were actively involved in planning daily activities and outings. The childminder used observations of children's play and development to assess progress and created developmental plans that clearly outlined how individual needs were being supported. These were shared with parents, who confirmed they felt well informed.

Children are supported to achieve **5 - Very Good**

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

Nurturing care and support

Children experienced consistently kind, respectful and responsive interactions with the childminder. The childminder promoted choice during play and guided children respectfully during daily routines. They were attentive to children's needs and helped them develop independence, for example, during toileting. This contributed to positive, trusting relationships where children felt safe, secure and valued.

Children's health and wellbeing were effectively supported through the use of personal plans. Information from parents was updated regularly to ensure that this was current and relevant, in line with guidance. Personal plans reflected the GIRFEC (Getting It Right for every Child) wellbeing indicators, which contributed to positive outcomes for children.

Transitions were well planned and flexible to suit the needs of children and families. Strong, collaborative relationships with families supported consistency between home and the setting. The childminder was respectful of family cultures and preferences, which contributed to children's sense of belonging and security. The childminder worked closely with parents, using daily conversations, messages, calls and photos to share information and maintain continuity of care. Parents told us the childminder frequently adjusted plans to meet children's needs, supporting smooth transitions and helping children feel settled and confident.

Children enjoyed relaxed snack and mealtime experiences. Snacks were brought from home, with the childminder providing nutritious lunches which were planned to reflect children's preferences. The childminder was knowledgeable about the prevention of choking hazards, ensuring children's food was suitably prepared and they were effectively supervised. The childminder sat alongside children at mealtimes, which encouraged conversation and promoted a safe and sociable experience.

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

Leadership	5 - Very Good
Leadership and management of staff and resources	5 - Very Good
Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Playing, learning and developing	5 - Very Good
Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good
Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good

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