

Dorota Pragert Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 30 May 2018

Service provided by:
Pragert, Dorota

Service provider number:
SP2013984536

Care service number:
CS2013315233

The service

Introduction

Dorota Pragert provides a childminding service from her own home which is located in a quiet residential area on the outskirts of the town. Local facilities including school, nursery and shops can be accessed by means of a short car journey.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of the childminder's family.

There is no restriction on the parts of the premises that can be used for childminding purposes.

No overnight care may be provided

The childminder's aims included the following:

- "- To provide high quality childcare in a caring family environment with a wide range of fun and stimulating toys, books and equipment for all ages
- To provide one to one attention and opportunities for interaction with others."

At the time of inspection 11 children were registered to use the service. One preschool child was present during our visit.

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection visit on Wednesday 30 May 2018. One inspector was present in the service for approximately two hours.

Ms Pragert submitted an annual return, as required. She also took the opportunity to update her self assessment, as part of the inspection process.

We asked Ms Pragert to issue questionnaires to the parents of her minded children, to allow them to comment on the service. We received three completed questionnaires.

During the inspection visit we gathered evidence from various sources, including:

- discussion with the childminder
- observation of interaction between childminder and minded child
- observation of activities and the environment
- children's records.

We took account of all of the above information when writing this report.

We assessed practice by looking at how the childminder provided positive outcomes for children using the SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included) wellbeing indicators which were developed by the Scottish Government, as part of the GIRFEC agenda (Getting It Right For Every Child). Further information on this can be found at www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/people/young-people/gettingitright).

Views of people using the service

The child who was present was comfortable and at ease in the setting and enjoyed spending the afternoon in the garden. She was confident in making her wishes known and was happy to choose how she wanted to spend her time.

Those parents who submitted questionnaires expressed confidence in the service. Comments included the following:

"My child is very happy with the childminder. I'm so glad I found Dorota."

"Our son always has a huge smile on his face when we arrive at Dorota's. He is thriving in her care."

"She always takes time to send pictures of what he has been up to. I really appreciate getting a snapshot of his day."

"I'm really very happy and the children are very happy."

Self assessment

Ms Pragert submitted detailed information about her work with the children. We found that the self assessment provided an accurate reflection of the service as we experienced it.

What the service did well

Ms Pragert provides a nurturing, child-centred service where children experience a high quality of care. She is proactive in evaluating her service and seeking ways in which she can improve outcomes for children. Feedback from parents has been extremely positive and they clearly value the service.

What the service could do better

Ms Pragert plans to continue to access training when possible and to keep herself abreast of developments in childcare and childminding practice.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Admissions were planned in a way that allowed parents to find out what the service offered and to enable children to settle at their own pace. Ms Pragert recognised the importance of working closely with parents to ensure continuity between home and the service. A wide range of communication methods were used which met parents' needs. They confirmed that the childminder communicated well and took account of their wishes and those of the children. As a result, parents felt involved and children were well supported.

The service did not always operate to its registered capacity which meant that Ms Pragert was sometimes able to spend some time individually with the children and to provide one to one support. This helped her form close, nurturing relationships and allowed her to be responsive to the children's needs and interests.

Ms Pragert was a good role model and promoted positive behaviour. She encouraged the children to learn to share and be considerate and caring towards one another. We observed very good quality interaction and concluded that children were valued and respected.

Daily routines ensured that children experienced consistency of care and the pace of the day took account of the individual needs of those being cared for, at any given time. We saw evidence of a range of experiences which promoted children's wellbeing. Activities were child led and Mrs Pragert followed through on children's requests for particular activities, where possible. There were daily opportunities for children to experience fresh air and exercise. Younger children took part in toddler groups which helped them to learn to relate to their peers.

Ms Pragert supplied meals and snacks for the children. A parent told us "My child enjoys the home-cooking. There is always a choice of healthy snacks and a nutritious lunch. We couldn't be happier with the meals and snacks provided." Ms Pragert involved the children in food preparation which promoted their learning and enabled discussion about healthy eating.

Ms Pragert was aware of the need to develop a personal plan for each child and parents were involved in reviewing their child's progress. Personal plans reflected ways in which the SHANARRI indicators were met through the children's activities and experiences and Ms Pragert recorded information about individual interests and suggested experiences. This was good practice which reflected personalised care. A parent told us "Dorota frequently gives me information from the profile she has created. We then discuss this and the next steps she will take to take my child's learning forward."

Ms Pragert was aware of her role in protecting children and understood her obligation to act on any concerns. She had attended child protection training which had raised her awareness of this important aspect of her work.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 6 - excellent

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The home is located in a quiet residential area and is well situated to allow access to local woodland which minded children often enjoyed visiting. The well maintained, spacious accommodation provided a safe and welcoming environment for children and their parents. The home was suitably equipped for childminding purposes and there was plenty of space for children to set out their toys and play materials and to take part in various activities simultaneously, depending on their ages and interests. A parent told us "Dorota's home is immaculate. The dedicated childminding room is child-friendly, clean and stimulating. Toys are in perfect condition and clean."

On the day of inspection a variety of play equipment was set out in the enclosed garden. We saw that the minded child enjoyed exploring the area at her own pace, with support from the childminder, when needed. As a result she was busy throughout our visit. Ms Pragert provided a wide range of resources which took account of children's ages and stages. As a result, they experienced a stimulating environment where they could engage well in their play. Ms Pragert was aware of the concept of loose parts play and had begun to introduce this to the children, to help promote children's creativity. Fun activities such as a potted sports competition had been organised, with the children receiving medals. This was one example of ways in which their achievements were celebrated.

Ms Pragert had a good awareness of safety issues. Children were supervised carefully both at home and when out and about. Children enjoyed some contact with the family dog who appeared to have a calm, friendly nature. Ms Pragert confirmed that she talked to the children about safety issues so that they could learn how to manage risk while gaining increasing independence. The car was used for nursery and school runs. Ms Pragert confirmed that she had appropriate restraints for the children's various ages and stages so that they could travel safely.

The environment was clean and very well cared for. Routine handwashing was encouraged. Nappy changing was carried out hygienically. Parents were asked to comply with exclusion periods for infectious illness. These measures helped keep children safe and healthy.

There had been no significant accidents. Ms Pragert held a current first aid certificate and was aware of the procedure to follow should an accident occur.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

Parents appreciated Ms Pragert's conscientious approach to her work. She shared written and verbal information about the service and was proactive in seeking feedback. This helped her to evaluate her work and to identify any changes or improvements which may be needed. A parent told us "Dorota truly values the opinions of the children and their parents and carers."

Ms Pragert was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association which provided information, guidance and support when needed. She also had contact with childminders who worked locally. Ms Pragert had been proactive in seeking out relevant training during her period of registration and kept a record of any training attended. She confirmed that she also used the internet to keep her knowledge up to date. She was aware of recent guidance documents which are in place to help ensure positive outcomes for children and had considered how she could further develop the quality of children's experiences. Ms Pragert had a copy of the Health and Social Care Standards and had begun to familiarise herself with this new document.

Ms Pragert had a good understanding of regulatory issues. She had submitted information to the Care Inspectorate when asked to do so and was aware of the need to make formal notifications, in certain circumstances. A suitable record keeping system was in place.

Ms Pragert held appropriate insurance policies. This should offer a degree of protection to families who use the service, in the event of any accidents.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

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

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

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

Previous recommendations

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Complaints

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

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
10 Jun 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		5 - Very good 5 - Very good Not assessed 4 - Good

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