

Cheeky Cherubs Childminding Child Minding

Glasgow

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
25 September 2024

Service provided by:
Gail Wilson

Service provider number:
SP2004917793

Service no:
CS2004061769

About the service

Cheeky Cherubs Childminding service is provided from the childminder's home in the Crookston area of Glasgow. The service is close to local schools, nurseries, shops, parks, woodland, public transport links and other amenities.

Children have access to the main living room space and an enclosed back garden. The living room is used to support various activities including mealtimes, rest, sleep, play and learning. A toilet was easily accessible to support children's personal care needs.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time, up to 16 years of age. At the time of inspection, there was two minded children being cared for.

About the inspection

This was a follow up inspection which focused on the requirements and areas for improvement made during the previous inspection undertaken on 5 June 2024. This inspection took place on 25 September 2024 between the hours of 09:30 and 14:30.

To prepare for this 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:

- . spoke with the childminder
- . spoke with two children attending the service
- . observed practice and daily life
- . reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Some improvements had been made to the infection prevention and control practices to create a safe environment for children.
- Some improvements had been made to remove some risks from the environment.
- The approach to risk assessing and maintaining a safe and hygienic environment should be further improved.
- Positive improvements had been made to personal plans for children.
- The childminder should continue to develop their approach to self-evaluation and improvement planning.
- The childminder should continue to review and update their policies, to ensure they inform and contribute to continual improvements for children and families.

How good is our setting?

At the previous inspection we made two requirements to ensure children were cared for in a safe and clean environment. At this follow up inspection we found that the childminder had made a positive start to addressing these. Some elements of the requirements were therefore met. For example, we saw improvements to the cleanliness of soft furnishings and the home was less cluttered. Children were also safer as hazardous substances were stored out of reach.

However, some areas did still need to improve. For example, the kitchen could have been cleaner and blind cords could have been better secured to protect children from harm.

Overall, we were satisfied that enough improvement had been made to address serious risks to children. We have therefore de-escalated the unmet elements of the requirements and incorporated into one area for improvement. See area for improvement 1.

Areas for improvement

1. To support children's health, wellbeing and safety, the childminder should ensure children are cared for in a safe and clean environment.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'My environment is secure and safe' (HSCS 5.17), and 'I experience an environment that is well looked after with clean, tidy and well maintained premises, furnishings and equipment' (HSCS 5.22).

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

Requirements

Requirement 1

By the 1 September 2024, the childminder must ensure appropriate arrangements for limiting the risk of harm to children are in place to keep children safe. To do this, the childminder must, as a minimum:

- a) Remove potential risk to children from the home and garden.
- b) Ensure hazardous materials are stored safely, and out of reach of children.
- c) Update recorded risk assessments and use in practice to keep children safe.

This is to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulation 2011 (SSI 2011/210) - Regulation 4(1)(d) - health, welfare and safety of service users.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'My environment is secure and safe' (HSCS 5.17).

This requirement was made on 4 June 2024.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder had made some improvements to the environment, to ensure it was safe and free from hazards. For example, all cleaning materials were out of reach of children, and plug wires were secured safely. These improvements contributed to keeping children safe.

During the follow up inspection we identified some potential risks to children. For example, we observed a blind cord was hanging down from the window where children played. This was in reach of children and was a potential hazard. We were satisfied that the childminder addressed this before the end of the follow up inspection. However, we stressed the importance of continually assessing the environment to identify and remove risks to children.

We concluded that some parts of this requirement were met. We have made a new area for improvement under section 2 'How good is our setting' to address the outstanding areas still to be met.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 2

By 1 September 2024, the childminder must ensure that children are cared for in a safe and hygienic environment and sufficient measures are in place to protect children from harm. To do this, the childminder must, as a minimum ensure:

- a) Effective handwashing takes place for the childminder and children.

- b) All minded areas are clean and clear of clutter, including bathroom and toilet area.
- c) Soft furnishings are deep cleaned, and regularly laundered or replaced.
- d) Participate in learning about the importance of good Infection, prevention, and control.

This is to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulation 2011 (SSI 2011/210) - Regulation 4(1)(d) - health, welfare and safety of service users.

This is to ensure that 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 organisational codes' (HSCS 3.14); and 'I experience an environment that is well looked after with clean, tidy and well maintained premises, furnishings and equipment' (HSCS 5.22).

This requirement was made on 4 June 2024.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder had been researching the infection, prevention and control (IPC) guidance to support their learning, skills and knowledge. This supported them to make some improvements that contributed to children being cared for in a hygienic environment. For example, we observed children and the childminder practicing effective handwashing, tables were cleaned prior to children eating, and all soft furnishings were clean and freshly laundered.

However, some areas of the childminders home, including the kitchen worktops and floor areas were unclean. This meant that children were not being fully protected from the spread of infection. We discussed with the childminder the importance of maintaining a clean environment for children at all times.

We concluded that some parts of this requirement were met. We have made a new area for improvement under section 2 'How good is our setting' to address the outstanding areas still to be met.

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

To ensure children's health, wellbeing and safety needs are met, the childminder should review children's needs and update personal plans regularly. This should include, but is not limited to, updating each child's chronology.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'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); and 'My needs as agreed in my personal plan, are fully met, and my wishes and choices are respected' (HSCS 1.23).

This area for improvement was made on 4 June 2024.

Action taken since then

Each child had their own personal plan which had been completed in partnership with families and children. They contained children's personal details, information of children's daily routines, likes, dislikes, and sleep preferences. Since the last inspection, they included a new addition of children's appraisals which showcased children's personalities. This element of the plans contributed to the childminders knowledge of children's individual needs, making them easier to meet in practice.

Records held were updated regularly with parents and children. This meant that the childminder had the most relevant information required to care for children and meet their individual needs.

The childminder liaised with other professionals when needed to gather and share information that supported meeting children's needs. This enabled consistent support strategies being adopted to support children's care. We discussed with the childminder how use of written chronologies could enhance that process.

This area for improvement has been met.

Previous area for improvement 2

To support high quality outcomes for children and families, the childminder should develop approaches to self-evaluation and improvement planning of the service.

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) and 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes' (HSCS 4.19).

This area for improvement was made on 4 June 2024.

Action taken since then

The childminder had made some progress with this area for improvement. They had been working towards improving their service in line with their current action plan from the last inspection. The childminder had drafted a position statement that captured some of the improvements they were working towards. This had resulted in some positive improvements to practice, and contributed to improving the outcomes for children and families.

The childminder explained that they were accessing support from The Scottish Childminding Association. They hoped that this would help to develop their approach to self-evaluation and improvement planning. We agreed that this was necessary to enable the childminder to identify and respond to improvements needed out with the inspection process. The childminder should continue with their plans to develop their approach to self-evaluation and should consider using the views of children and families to support a continuous improvement culture.

This area for improvement has not been met.

Previous area for improvement 3

To support the service to be managed and led well, the childminder should review and update the policies of the service. Policies should reflect best practice guidance and be appropriate to the needs of the childminding service. As a minimum, the childminder should review policies for school collection, outings, pets and safe sleep.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'I use a service and organisation that are well led and managed' (HSCS 4.23).

This area for improvement was made on 4 June 2024.

Action taken since then

The childminder was at the early stages of reviewing and updating their policies.

They had began to look at best practice guidance and had attempted some policies that supported meeting children's needs. For example, by developing a safe sleep policy, children were protected from harm in practice.

The childminder should continue to review, develop, and update their policies. This would ensure that clear guidance is available and followed in practice to meet children's health, welfare and safety needs.

This area for improvement has not been met.

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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