

Rosie's Blossoms Child Minding

Kirkliston

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
25 September 2024

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2008970029

Service no:
CS2008177272

About the service

Ms Summers' childminding service is known as 'Rosie's Blossoms'. She provides a childminding service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16. This means there should be no more than three that are not yet attending primary school and no more than one under 12 months old. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Ms Summers operates the service from the family home in a residential area of Kirkliston, a small town to the west of Edinburgh and close to local amenities.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Wednesday, 25 September 2024 between the hours of 12:15 and 14:30. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate. One other inspector was shadowing the inspection.

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:

- spoke to and interacted with the two minded children using the service
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice, daily routines, and children's experiences
- reviewed documents in the service
- considered feedback we received from three families using the service.

Key messages

- The childminder had developed strong and trusting relationships with children and families.
- Children experienced a caring and nurturing environment with play experiences and opportunities taking into account their interests and choices.
- The childminder was committed to undertaking training to meet the needs of children in their care and to improve the service.
- The childminder reflected on practice and made changes when needed to secure positive outcomes for children and families.
- The ethos of the service creates a positive experience for all children.

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 key question 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 indicator as good

Children experienced warm, caring, and nurturing approaches from the childminder who had a very good understanding of their individual needs and preferences. The childminder worked closely with families to ensure children's routines were consistent with home. One family told us "We have been lucky to have Rosie helping us for about 5 years now. She is very reliable. She is kind to my children. She is a 'no nonsense' kind of person maintaining good rules and values within her home, as we do in our home. We get on well with her". As a result, children were happy and settled in the care of the childminder.

The mealtime routine was relaxed, calm and sociable. Children enjoyed a selection of food choices prepared by their parents. The childminder was aware of their individual likes and dislikes and offered snacks which children enjoyed. One parent told us "We send meals for our child and Rosie has checked that we are happy with any additional snacks she offers. She let's us know how his eating has been". Children were given opportunities to cook and bake, including vegetables collected from a family members allotment. This ensured children were building a positive relationship with foods and developing life skills.

Children's wellbeing was supported through personal planning. Although formal plans were not in place children's care and wellbeing information was gathered at the start of a childminding arrangement. One parent commented "Although we don't discuss a written plan for our child, Rosie always asks for updates and raises any concerns quickly and openly. There is very regular contact and Rosie does her best to adapt to any specific requests/needs that we have". The childminder now needed to further develop children's personal plans further and review them at least every six months as per legislation. We signposted the childminder to personal planning guidance and personal planning bite size sessions on the Care Inspectorate HUB. One parent told us "Rosie's service is very personal and it is always clear that she wants to know and meet the needs of each child". This meant the childminder knew what was important to children and was able to support their wellbeing and development.

The childminder valued the importance of partnership working with families. She kept families informed regularly throughout the day by sending messages and photographs of what their child was experiencing. Families told us they liked receiving the updates. One parent commented "Rosie's door is always open and I can always see if I wish the play they are involved in and get lovely photo updates from Rosie". As a result, they felt involved in their child's play and learning as they were able to talk about the fun experiences.

Personal care was carried out sensitively however, when nappy changing the childminder should be mindful of children's dignity and respect. The childminder had a system in place to support the safe administration and review of medication. At the time of our visit, no children required medication. However, we were confident children's healthcare needs would be met if medication was required.

Quality indicator 1.3: Play and learning.

We evaluated this indicator as very good.

Children were leading their play and interests. They were able to make independent choices from a very good selection of toys, open ended resources and high-quality books and materials. Resources were organised in way that promoted independence. One child told us "I love meeting all the other children , going to groups and all the lovely arts and crafts Rosie does with us". The childminder was responsive to children's requests of where and how they wanted to play. This meant children were listened to and their rights respected.

Children enjoyed playing with small world resources, making music outdoors, wheeled toys and construction materials. One parent told us "Rosie provides variety of activities for children. Encourages them to play outside as much as possible, creates games that help to reach children milestones and create very loving atmosphere". The childminder was attuned to children's likes and ensured there were rich and engaging activities. As a result, children experienced varied and fun play and learning opportunities.

Planning for children's experiences were a balance of responding to their interest's and organised activities. Experiences ensured children benefited from real life learning and connection with their community and nature. They visited different green spaces, enjoyed local attractions and socialising with other children from childminders who joined them on outings. Trips further afield were organised and a parent told us these had included "Stirling castle visits, Edinburgh city festival visits, bus trips, train trips. Plane spotting at the airport. Shopping trips. Park visits. Bowling". We suggested a floor book could be used to document children's play and learning to give children opportunities to revisit and recall their experiences. Families told us "Rosie's garden is so well equipped for the children there is stuff for all ages and Rosie has spent a lot of time doing this for the children" and "Rosie always encourages play with others , outdoor adventures and safe independent play". As a result, children benefitted from a wide range of experiences and were learning about the world around them.

Children experienced kind and supportive interactions from the childminder who valued the importance of ensuring play and learning was rich, high quality and meaningful. They listened to children, used effective questioning to promote thinking and talking about their play and learning. This promoted literacy and numeracy development through quality interactions and experiences. As a result, children were developing important skills for life through quality engagement.

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children/people, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality indicator 2.2: High quality facilities.

Children were cared for in a homely, stimulating and welcoming environment. The setting was well furnished, well maintained, and benefitted from natural light and ventilation.

Children could access a safe enclosed garden Resources were stored and displayed in a way which allowed children to develop their independence, curiosity and imagination.

The childminder carried out daily environmental checks to ensure spaces were safe. Children were involved in learning about risk and how to manage this. For example, road safety and having adventures in the woods. This meant children were included in risk assessing and had safe spaces to play and explore. The childminder had detailed policies in place to support the delivery of the service. These were reviewed to ensure they reflected guidance and were shared with parents. This meant families were familiar with how the service operated.

Infection, prevention, and control practice was embedded in everyday routines. The childminder had a very good understanding of best practice guidance. Children washed their hands at key times and surfaces were clean. The childminder provided paper towels or children to dry their hands with to ensure any risk of cross contamination was minimised. Resources and areas were cleaned regularly. As a result, children played in a safe and well-maintained environment.

The childminder understood the importance of keeping children's personal information secure. They shared their confidentiality policy with families using the service. This meant that children's personal information was managed in line with best practice.

How good is our leadership? **4 - Good**

We evaluated this key question 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 well led.

Children and families experienced a warm and welcoming ethos. Families told us the service was welcoming. The childminder promoted their vision and aim for their service through providing a secure and comfortable environment that supported children to develop skills for life. Children and families benefitted from a committed and enthusiastic childminder who was kind, caring and valued every child as an individual. This meant children were supported to thrive and flourish.

The childminder was committed to improving the service. She engaged well with the inspection process and were responsive to our suggestions for development. This showed us the service had capacity for change. The childminder had created child centred values for the service and had embedded them into their daily practice. Children's views were actively sought by the childminder who valued their ideas and opinions on snacks, activities, and outings. This showed us children's rights were respected.

We suggested to the childminder an improvement plan could be created from their reflections on the service. To begin this approach, we directed the childminder to the Care Inspectorate 'A quality framework for daycare of children, childminding and school-aged childcare' (2022), and the Care Inspectorate website the 'Hub' for further helpful resources. Developing the approach to self-evaluation would help the childminder to support the impact developments had on supporting positive outcomes for children.

How good is our staff team? **5 - Very Good**

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality indicator 4.1: Staff skills, knowledge & values

The childminder had a good understanding of each child's personality and interests. Respectful relationships were a key strength and children benefited from the childminder's warmth and encouragement. During the inspection, the childminder was very attentive to the children and put their needs first. This contributed to children's individual needs being met and their interests being supported. Parents told us they appreciated the care given to their children. One parent commented, "We feel very fortunate to have our child in such a safe, happy and fulfilling place. Thank you to Rosie and we look forward to staying with her for the foreseeable future".

The childminder had some supportive networks with other professionals in the area. They made effective use of these connections to ensure they had relevant guidance, felt informed and were able to make changes in line with best practice. As a result, children received care and support from a childminder who was dedicated to their role and had an enabling attitude that promoted children to have fun as they played.

The childminder was committed to engaging with ongoing training and professional reading. She was currently doing a Scottish vocational qualification and brought her learning to the service to promote positive outcomes for children. This meant children and families experienced care and support from a childminder who valued the importance engaging in professional learning had on skills and experience. As a result, children and families experienced high quality care and support from a childminder who was dedicated and passionate about their role in ensuring children thrived and flourished in their care.

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	4 - Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very 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

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

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