

# Jades Child Minding Services Child Minding

Aberdeen

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
5 November 2024

**Service provided by:**  
Jade Crombie

**Service provider number:**  
SP2023000051

**Service no:**  
CS2023000066

## About the service

Jade's childminding provides a childminding service from their property in a quiet residential area of Kingswells. The childminder may care for a maximum of three children at any one time up to 16 years of age, of whom no more than three are under 12 years, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and, of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers include the children of the childminder's family/household.

The service is close to the local primary school, parks, and other local amenities. Children have access to an open plan living space with dining kitchen, downstairs bathroom, and a fully enclosed garden.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 5 November 2024 between 09:15 and 12:30. 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 information and information submitted by the service.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- gathered feedback about the service from families
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice and children's experiences
- reviewed documents.

## Key messages

- Children were happy, settled and relaxed in the childminder's care. The childminder was responsive to children, providing caring interactions.
- Children were able to direct their own play and activities, choosing and freely accessing appropriate materials and resources to support their play and learning.
- Trusting and positive relationships were formed with families and effective communication supported families to be involved in their child's care.
- A range of mandatory training courses and other professional development opportunities had been accessed, supporting the childminder to develop their skills and knowledge.
- The childminder's knowledge of childcare and reflective practice was supporting continuous improvement to promote positive outcomes for 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?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very 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?

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 1.1: Nurturing care and support

Children experienced warm, caring, and nurturing interactions from the childminder. The childminder knew the children very well and was responsive to their emotional and wellbeing needs. Comfort and cuddles were offered when needed, which gave them reassurance. This supported children to feel safe and secure during their time at the service. Children were confident in approaching the childminder, asking for resources, and inviting them into their play which showed children were settled in their care. Parents comments included, "Jade loves working with kids and you can see it as the kids thrive under her care," and "The most positive aspect is that my child is in a safe and nurturing setting and is received with open arms and a big smile everyday."

Children's personal plans had been completed in partnership with parents. They were updated at least every six months and the childminder shared that they update every three months for babies and young children. This helped to ensure plans reflected children's individual needs and preferences. An 'all about me' was completed for each child giving the childminder information about the child's likes and preferences. A record of children's progress was recorded in a diary and WhatsApp was used each day to text parents, giving an update on their child's day with photographs and comments.

Children were provided with plentiful and healthy food and drink choices. Children sat together to enjoy a sociable and relaxed experience. This helped them to develop healthy eating habits and social skills. The childminder was knowledgeable and supported children's individual dietary requirements in partnership with their family. This contributed to children's wellbeing and safety. A parent commented, "We are a halal diet and Jade has made sure that they have got food in to meet my child's requirements."

Children were well supported in their personal care. The childminder was kind in their interactions and children's dignity and privacy was respected. Children's sleep routines were well considered, and the childminder had a very good knowledge of safe sleep practices, helping to ensure children were safe and healthy.

The childminder demonstrated a very good knowledge of the procedures to be followed if she had any concerns regarding child protection. An appropriate policy was in place, which had been shared with parents and carers. This gave parents assurance of the steps the childminder would take to protect their children from harm.

### Quality Indicator 1.3: play and learning

Children were observed to be happy and enjoying their time with the childminder. They had a variety of opportunities which met their developmental needs, interests, and curiosities. These experiences offered children play and learning which included exploring, being creative, and problem solving. As a result, children were engaged in their play. A parent commented, "My child loves going to their childminders, they feel safe and have lots of fun, enjoys their yummy foods and all the adventures that are planned for the day."

Children benefitted from opportunities to develop their skills in language, literacy, and numeracy. Experiences were enhanced naturally through play. For example, the childminder encouraged children to count, look at books, sing songs and repeated words back to them. As a result, children were engaged in their play whilst developing literacy and numeracy skills.

The childminder listened to ideas and suggestions from children and parents. This helped them to provide a good range of activities, toys, and games. Experiences were child-centred and responsive to the children's wishes and choices. They linked to children's current interests and were challenging and exciting. Floorbooks were used to record children's experiences and support with planning. This allowed children to revisit learning and talk about their experiences. The childminder was knowledgeable about each child's stage of development and identified appropriate next steps in learning to support them to reach their full potential. As a result, children were happy, confident, and progressing well.

Children's opportunities were enhanced through the strong community connections. For example, attending local groups, use of playparks and library supported children to be included and created a sense of belonging. A parent commented, "Jade is fortunate to have a small playground right next to her house and around the village there are plenty of green areas and parks where they go explore."

## 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, therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

### Quality Indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

Children experienced a homely, thoughtfully planned environment. There was plenty of natural light and the setting was well ventilated and comfortably furnished. Play spaces had been carefully planned to support children's needs and help them to feel included. The setup of the environment gave a strong message to children that they mattered, where they had ample spaces which were clearly defined for their needs. As a result, children benefitted from a range of stimulating open spaces to enhance play experiences. A parent commented, "Jade's home is beautiful, always clean and tidy, very welcoming and inviting, cosy and warm."

Children's stages of development, interests and curiosities were well considered and reflected in the selection of resources on offer. The toys and resources were easily accessible which promoted choice and enabled children to be independent in their play and learning. A varied range of resources ensured that children had access to a variety of learning experiences. Children were seen to be utilising these, freely leading their play.

Children benefitted from an easily accessible, spacious front garden. The outdoor space was equipped with a range of exciting play resources, including a mud kitchen and outdoor building blocks. The childminder had made good use of the space available to them, giving children access to fresh air supporting their health and wellbeing.

Children were kept safe and protected as the service was well maintained and clean. Effective infection prevention and control measures were in place. The childminder had effectively considered and introduced procedures to minimise the potential spread of infection. For example, effective cleaning and handwashing procedures. As a result, children were supported to be safe and healthy.

Children and family's personal information was securely stored. The childminder understood their responsibilities regarding storing and processing children's personal information.

## How good is our leadership?

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 3.1: Quality assurances and improvements are well led

The aims and objectives of the service were in place to promote a shared vision between the childminder and families. These were shared with families as children enter the service. The childminder discussed how these would be meaningfully reviewed with families as the need arises. This meant children and families benefitted from a childminder that was reflecting on the delivery of their service, helping to ensure everyone's needs are met.

The childminder was committed to families, respectful and had a pride in the service, speaking with passion and enthusiasm for the children and their role. The positive partnership working with parents helped to provide continuity of care for children and families felt welcome and comfortable in the setting. A parent told us, "I like that Jade takes her time to get to know my child and explore their interests with them. Jade is very good at communicating with me and my child."

The childminder was passionate and committed to the ongoing improvement and development of the service to achieve the best outcomes they could for children and their families. Regular self-evaluation had identified areas of good practice and where the childminder wanted to improve. This resulted in a number of improvements, supporting improved outcomes for children. The current improvement plan included consideration of how young children could be supported to choose resources. As a result, children benefitted from a well-considered and high-quality service.

The childminder had a range of policies that supported the running of the service. These policies were regularly reviewed, updated to reflect current best practice, and shared with families. This provided parents with clarity about how the service operated and reassurance that there were procedures in place to keep their children safe.

## 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

The childminder was nurturing, kind and compassionate. They knew each family and their circumstances well and described positive relationships. Children were secure in the childminder's care and were seen to be relaxed and chatty. Interactions were loving and supported children to develop thinking skills. Fun and kindness were at the heart of the service provided to the children and families.

It was clear that relationships and communications with families were a key strength of the service. The childminder had developed strong relationships with children and families, supporting them to feel included

and valued. They used messaging platforms to share information and communicate with parents as well as day-to-day conversations. A parent told us, "She is very open and honest and is like a friend." Another commented, "Jade keeps up regular contact and discussion with us to ensure that care provided for our child is of the most benefit to their development and happiness."

The childminder's knowledge and skills supported high quality experiences for children. The childminder was proactive in keeping up to date with best practice. They had attended a range of training courses and accessed a range of best practice documentation. Reflecting on new learning had enabled the childminder to identify how it could enhance their practice. This contributed to supporting very good outcomes for children.

Children benefitted from good supervision which ensured they were always safe.

## Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Detailed evaluations

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very 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?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.1 Staff skills, knowledge and values	5 - Very Good



## To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

## Contact us

Care Inspectorate  
Compass House  
11 Riverside Drive  
Dundee  
DD1 4NY

[enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

## Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iarrrtas.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.