

Anderson, Kimberley Child Minding

Perth

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
13 May 2025

Service provided by:
Kimberley Anderson

Service provider number:
SP2017989194

Service no:
CS2017358282

About the service

Kimberley Anderson provides a childminding service from her home within the area of Errol, Perth. Children are cared for on the ground level of the house and have access to a dedicated playroom at the rear of the property. Children benefit from spaces that included a large enclosed garden, kitchen/dining area, lounge and bathroom.

The setting is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time under the age of 16 years, of whom no more than 3 are of an age not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is less than 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of the children of the childminder's family.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 13 May 2025 and was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about the 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 children using the service;
- spoke with the childminder;
- observed practice and children's experiences;
- reviewed feedback from three families using MS forms; and
- reviewed documents.

As part of this inspection we undertook a focus area. We have 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:

- safety of the physical environment, indoors and outdoors;
- the quality of personal plans and how well children's needs are being met; and
- 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 were helped to feel safe and cared for as the childminder provided warm and nurturing interactions that supported their overall wellbeing.
- The childminder had developed strong relationships with parents, carers and children. Information was routinely shared about children to ensure their care needs were met.
- A wide range of rich learning experiences was provided which supported children's literacy, numeracy, imagination, creativity, and critical thinking skills.
- The childminder demonstrated and maintained a professional attitude to learning and development to enhance outcomes for children.
- The childminder used feedback from families and best practice information to guide their practice. Formalised self evaluation processes and quality assurance systems were at an early stage of development.

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

Quality indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support

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.

There were two young children present on the day of the inspection who were happy and secure in the care of the childminder. Their individual needs and cues were understood and responded to effectively. The childminder provided children with cuddles, praise and comfort which helped create a calm and welcoming space. Parents told us "Kimberley is friendly, welcoming and warm" and "we feel very lucky that we have such a lovely childminder locally".

Children had strong attachments and benefited from consistent approaches from the childminder who knew each child in her care. Personal plans were in place and contained relevant background information. The plans were completed with parents and routinely reviewed to ensure that they continued to meet the changing needs of children. To further strengthen the approach to personal planning, we directed the childminder to the Care Inspectorate document, 'Guide for providers on personal planning'. All families strongly agreed I am fully involved in my child's care, including developing and reviewing their personal plan.

Children experienced relaxed and sociable mealtimes. Children sat at the family dining table, in appropriate seating, which kept them safe. The childminder used the opportunity to talk to them about their lunch, and about what they might do next. This supported children's developing language and communication skills and provided them with a positive, social experience.

Safeguarding of children was enhanced as the childminder had undertaken appropriate training. They were confident in identifying signs and symptoms of abuse and taking action to address these.

There were no children, at the time of inspection, requiring medication. The childminder had forms for families to share information. This supported children's wellbeing, health and safety in relation to the administration of medication.

Quality indicator 1.3: Play and Learning

Children had opportunities to be creative and explore natural materials. They were supported to choose and lead their own play experiences. The childminder offered children choices which reflected their interests.

Resources were of high quality and stored effectively to promote choice. Parents told us "Our child plays with the mud kitchen, outdoor toys and activities in the tuff tray (water play etc)" and "my child loves drawing and making things and as Kimberly is so artistic herself, they learn from her". The childminder effectively supported and extended the children's interests, which were well documented in the observations of the children at play and in the floor book.

Experiences and learning were shared with parents through message functions, photos and at drop off and pick up. This enabled families to be involved in children's learning and development, with regular updates of their progress and achievements shared. Logs included, outings, experiments, baking and accessing community groups. The experiences supported children to explore and learn about the world around them and supported children's wellbeing, confidence and learning.

We observed the childminder to be involved in activities that supported children's language, numeracy and literacy. For example, stories and music were used to support and extend the interests of children. The childminder used effective questioning which included counting and colour recognition to support fun, joy and stimulating experiences.

The local community and surrounding areas were used by the childminder. Outings and visits included trips to play groups, parks, beaches and book bug sessions. This supported and promoted social skills, fun and children's overall development.

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

Quality Indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

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.

The setting was well-furnished, visibly clean, comfortable and homely, giving children a home from home environment. Children had lots of space to move and explore and their needs, stages of development and interests were well considered. One child told us they enjoyed setting up areas of the playroom, growing sun flowers and playing 'hide and seek' in the garden.

Furniture and displays within the childminder's playroom promoted learning, safety and past experiences. For example, child sized tables and chairs were available, toys and games were suitably stored, and direct access to them meant children could choose toys and games independently. Children's art and past experiences were displayed which promoted a strong message that they mattered.

The childminder had a very good understanding of the importance of children having opportunities to play outdoors. Children benefited from an easily accessible garden space. The garden offered opportunities for children to develop their senses in a natural environment. Toys and resources included a mud kitchen, tuff tray which contained natural resources, loose parts and active toys. This supported children to explore, be creative and extend learning through play.

Children who needed a sleep enjoyed a restful and safe experience. The childminder made regular checks on sleeping children, a quiet space was available along with a travel cot. This meant children were supported with natural movements, promoting positive and restful sleep.

The childminder managed the environment well to promote children's safety and wellbeing. Infection control was observed to be good, with children familiar with hand washing routines. Risk and control measures were considered. For example, completed risk assessments were in place. We provided advice around completed risk assessments to ensure these covered key areas of the childminder's tasks and contribute to children's continued safety and wellbeing.

The childminder understood the importance of keeping children's personal information secure and followed the most up to date General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

How good is our leadership?

5 - Very Good

Quality Indicator: 3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well

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.

Children and families were involved in the service and the childminder had developed positive relationships with parents and carers. She used daily conversations, communication apps and questionnaires to build relationships and support consultation. Parents told us "we feel Kimberley does a good job of meeting our child's interests..." and "Questionnaires asked us what we would like to see/have on offer for our child". As a result, parents felt valued and supported to communicate well with the childminder.

The aims of the service reflected the creative, safe, home from home and relaxed environment where children can play and learn. One parent told us "we feel confident and know our child is safe and happy when at Kimberley's house". The aims included to provide a safe environment for children to feel happy and nurtured. This was observed in practice and recognised as a key importance to the childminder.

The childminder outlined her commitment to bringing about positive outcomes for children through applying a self-evaluation plan and a quality assurance process. Honest reflections were shared to plan changes to positively impact on children's experiences and outcomes. The childminder was familiar with 'A quality framework for daycare of children, childminding, and school aged childcare' and had recently started a formal approach to self-evaluation. The impact of this was at an early stage, however the childminder demonstrated a strong commitment to reflective practice. For example, reviewing and reflections around the approach to risk assessing supported the childminder to be responsive to children's safety and welfare.

The childminder had developed a range of policies and procedures, that were readily available to parents, so they knew what to expect from the service. The childminder was reviewing and updating these. We discussed how policies and procedures could be further expanded to reflect changes to best practice and legislation.

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

Quality Indicator 4.1: Staff skills, knowledge and values

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.

The childminder engaged with children in a responsive, and respectful manner which supported their self-esteem and confidence. The warm, kind and nurturing approach supported children to feel respected, secure and safe. Parents told us "we would recommend this service to anyone" and "Our child feels so comfortable and at home at Kimberley's house, it's like going to another family member's house. They have grown in confidence and developed friendships".

The childminder demonstrated a professional attitude to their role. For example, being registered with the Information Commissioner's office, Scottish Childminding Association and ensuring she received updates from the Care Inspectorate supported the childminder to keep up-to-date with new developments and changes in guidance.

Children and families benefited from the childminder having a clear understanding of her professional responsibilities. Links with other local childminders, groups, accessing regular training supported the childminder's knowledge and practice.

The childminder had accessed a range of training. For example, first aid, child protection and food safety supported the delivery of a professional childminding service.

The approach and value shown towards children ensured children were safe, respected, valued and loved. One parent told us "we are very grateful for everything Kimberley does for our child and feel very lucky that we have such a lovely childminder".

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?	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

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