

Davis, Lesley Child Minding

Lochwinnoch

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
7 August 2025

Service provided by:
Lesley Davis

Service provider number:
SP2003902884

Service no:
CS2003005015

About the service

Lesley Davis provides a childminding service from their family home in the Lochwinnoch area of Renfrewshire. The service is provided from a detached house with children having access to a front and back garden, a designated playroom, kitchen, living room and downstairs toilet.

The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children, Monday to Wednesday and seven children on a Thursday and Friday, at any one time under the age of 16, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Should any child leave the service the number of children cared for will revert to the original condition above. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Overnight service will not be provided and the upstairs of the premises is not included in registered areas. The parts of the premises not to be used are the upstairs. The family dogs will be kept separate from children using the service when appropriate. At the time of our inspection, 16 children were registered with the service.

About the inspection

This was an full inspection which took place on 7 August 2025 between 11:15 and 13:45. Feedback was given to the childminder on that day.

The inspection was carried out by one Care Inspectorate inspector. To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

Key messages

- Children experienced warm and kind care. They were happy throughout our visit and confident in the childminder's home.
- Personal plans reflected children's progress and interests, though improvements are needed to ensure health needs are clearly documented.
- The childminder knew children well and responded sensitively to their individual needs and significant life events.
- Strong relationships with families supported continuity of care and positive outcomes for children.
- Children had fun, learning through play.

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?	4 - Good
How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
How good is our staff team?	4 - 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.

Children were relaxed, happy, and confident in the childminder's home. They interacted warmly with us on arrival, chatting and sharing their experiences, demonstrating they felt safe, secure, and settled. Parents spoke positively about the care provided, describing the environment as welcoming and nurturing. One parent shared, "the love and safety my child feels is just the same as he would get at home I couldn't find a better childminder if I tried."

The childminder confidently discussed the individual needs and circumstances of children in their care, including emotional support and significant events in their lives. Settling-in visits were tailored to individual needs, including extended introductions for children attending part-time. This supported children's emotional wellbeing and helped foster trusting relationships.

Mealtimes were relaxed and unhurried. Children were consulted on the lunch choice and enjoyed pizza, fruit, and yoghurt. Children sat together in the playroom. Meals were provided by both the childminder and parents. Water was offered to ensure children were hydrated. The childminder was registered as a food business and followed safety guidance, such as cutting fruit appropriately. Almost all parents agreed the range of food is healthy and reflects their individual needs with one parent sharing "my child has been able to try lots of food that I wouldn't of thought of trying and now loves it" and another parent commenting "there is a good range of food including fruit and vegetables." This supported children's health and wellbeing. We discussed referring to updated nutritional guidance to further enhance meal planning. "Setting the Table Nutritional Standards and Practical Guidance for Early Learning and Childcare Providers in Scotland" (2025).

Procedures for medication were in place, including a policy and consent forms. We discussed the record of administration form required updating to reflect up-to-date guidance. One child's allergy was noted but lacked sufficient detail. Further information should be gathered from parents to ensure safe management of health needs. **(See Area for Improvement 1)**

This will ensure children are kept safe and their health care needs are met.

The childminder was aware of their responsibilities to safeguard children and the processes to follow to make a referral. The childminder had developed effective relationships with the local nursery to support shared outcomes. This ensured that children were kept safe from harm or abuse.

Personal plans supported children's wellbeing and included emergency contacts, routines, and developmental progress. They were reviewed and documented information such as children's interests and communication needs. We discussed streamlining these to ensure records are fully complete. This will support consistent practice and help ensure children's needs are clearly identified and met. We suggested involving children in their personal plans, such as completing the "All About Me" section. This would promote children's voice and support planning that reflects their interests and preferences.

Quality Indicator 1.3: Play and learning.

Children had access to a wide variety of age and stage appropriate toys and resources within a designated playroom, supporting independent choice and purposeful play. One child told us "I like barbies and playdough." During our visit, we observed children particularly enjoy roleplay with a dolls house, enjoy physical activity on the scooters and play with sand in the mud kitchen. As a result, these experiences supported children's interests and meaningful play.

The childminder mostly followed an informal child-led planning approach and told us they valued children leading their own play. They documented children's interests and used these to inform day-to-day activities, such as organising visits to the local park to play football and access play equipment. Outdoor play and community experiences, including daily walks to nursery and school and visits to the local park, enriched children's learning.

Information about children's play and learning was shared with parents through WhatsApp, with daily photos and updates helping families stay connected to their child's experiences and progress. This regular communication strengthened relationships between the childminder and families, creating a consistent approach to care. Parents told us they were happy with the range of experiences provided and were welcomed to discuss children's play and learning through daily informal chats.

Literacy and numeracy were embedded in play, through books, games, and everyday interactions. For example, the childminder encouraged counting during discussions about the tooth fairy, and personal plans reflected children's progress and interests in these areas. This supported early learning and helped children develop key skills in a meaningful and engaging way.

Younger children had "Support My Progress" forms outlining developmental milestones and learning goals. Special occasions, like birthdays, were celebrated and shared with parents, fostering a sense of belonging and supporting each child's growth. This ensured children were supported to reach their full potential.

Areas for improvement

1. To further support children's health and wellbeing, the childminder should ensure that personal plans clearly detail allergy management. This includes recording the type of allergy, signs and symptoms, and any required actions or medication.

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 care and support meets my needs and is right for me' (HSCS 1.19).

How good is our setting?

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: 2.2 Children experience high quality facilities

The childminder's home was warm, welcoming and comfortable, filled with natural light. The environment was clean and organised.

The playroom was well-resourced, with toys stored in open units that promoted independence and choice. Resources were age-appropriate and reflected children's current interests, such as Paw Patrol toys and playdough, supporting engagement and curiosity. We discussed reducing the number of resources to maximise space, support toy rotation, and make choices more manageable.

Infection prevention and control practices were mostly good. Children washed their hands at key times, such as after outdoor play and toileting. We suggested ensuring handwashing also takes place before meals. The toilet area was well-equipped with individual towels, a laundry basket, gloves and aprons. The childminder described nappy changing procedures which respected children's privacy and dignity.

The garden had recently been refurbished, providing a large, safe and stimulating outdoor space. Children could freely access it from the kitchen area via double doors, promoting independence and active outdoor play. We observed children enjoying exploring the toys and equipment and they told us "the scooter is my favourite." The garden area was well designed to suit the needs, interests, and developmental stages of all children attending. It was set out to support a range of play experiences, including large open spaces for active play, seating areas for social interaction, imaginative and creative zones. This ensured the space was inclusive and engaging for children of all ages and stages.

Children's outdoor play was enhanced with access to the local community including local parks and Castle Semple. This extended learning beyond the setting and supported children's connections to the local area.

Indoor and outdoor areas were safely monitored, with the childminder remaining attentive to potential risks and ensuring a secure environment. The garden was securely fenced, and procedures were in place to prevent children leaving the premises unattended. These included locking the front door, storing the key securely, and using a door alarm and video doorbell for added security. All parents strongly agreed that their child was cared for in a safe, secure and well-maintained environment, with one parent commenting "The childminder is safety conscious and has measures to make sure the kids are always ok."

Risk assessments were available, we recommended introducing a daily environmental check before children arrive, as well as creating a specific risk assessment for the household pets.

Families were warmly welcomed into the childminder's home at drop off and collection times, which provided valuable opportunities for sharing of information and helped build strong relationships. All parents strongly agreed they were welcomed into the home, one parent commented "The childminder is very welcoming and would always be happy to chat" and another shared "They are a friendly lovely person with a perfect environment for children."

The childminder was registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), demonstrating a commitment to handling data responsibly and securely. Personal information was stored in individual files to protect the privacy of children and families. This ensured data was handled responsibly and privacy was protected.

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 led well

The childminder actively engaged with the inspection process, demonstrating openness to feedback and a commitment to continuous improvement. For example, they welcomed suggestions for training opportunities and advice on how to improve the service.

Parents received a welcome booklet at enrolment, which outlined key policies aligned with current guidance, helping build trust and transparency. Positive relationships with families supported open communication and effective information sharing. Daily discussions at drop-off and pick-up, along with WhatsApp updates, helped maintain continuity of care and strengthened partnerships.

The childminder demonstrated a reflective approach to practice by identifying areas for improvement, including updating policies and procedures and implementing strategies to gather parental feedback. Feedback was collected through informal conversations and digital communication, with plans to reintroduce formal questionnaires to further strengthen parental involvement. Parents responding to inspection surveys commented that outdoor play opportunities could be further developed. The childminder had already taken proactive steps to address this by enhancing the garden area, reflecting a commitment to continuous improvement.

Photographs and updates were shared with families via digital platforms, helping parents stay informed about their child's experiences and achievements. Parents confirmed that daily communication supported continuity of care and helped them understand their child's progress. One parent commented "the childminder sends photos of the things they get to do."

Best practice guidance was accessed through the Care Inspectorate, Scottish Child Minding Association (SCMA) and Minding Kids websites. This ensured practice remained up-to-date, enhancing the quality of care and supporting positive outcomes for children. The childminder had previously used questionnaires to gather feedback. We suggested reintroducing these to support participation and improvements.

How good is our staff team?

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 4.1: Staff skills, knowledge & values

Children benefited from the childminder's kind and nurturing approach, which helped them feel valued, loved, and secure. With 23 years of experience, the childminder demonstrated confidence and skill in engaging with children and building strong relationships with families.

The childminder's values were evident throughout the inspection. Their nurturing approach was consistently observed in warm, responsive interactions. We saw consistent use of praise and encouragement to support children's emotional wellbeing and build self-esteem. As a result, children were confident, happy, and actively engaged in their play and learning.

Policies and procedures were aligned with national and local guidance, reflecting the childminder's commitment to professional learning and continuous improvement. Recent training in child development had positively influenced practice. This was reflected in "Support My Progress" documentation.

Appropriate next steps were identified, tailored to each child's age and stage of development. This ensured that children received targeted support to help them achieve their full potential and promoting positive outcomes for children.

The childminder expressed a strong interest in furthering their professional development, including updating first aid training. Though noted challenges in accessing training opportunities. We signposted to relevant resources to further support this.

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	4 - Good
How good is our setting?	4 - Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	4 - 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?	4 - Good
4.1 Staff skills, knowledge and values	4 - 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

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

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 iartras.

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.