

Inspection report

Brown, Jacqueline
Child Minding

Glenrothes

Inspected by: Fiona Smart
(Care Commission Officer)

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)

Inspection completed on: 31 August 2006

Service Number

CS2003007619

Service name

Brown, Jacqueline

Service address

Glenrothes

Provider Number

SP2003904570

Provider Name

Jacqueline Brown

Inspected By

Fiona Smart
Care Commission Officer

Inspection Type

Announced (short notice)

Inspection Completed

31 August 2006

Period since last inspection

12 months

Local Office Address

South Suite,
Largo House,
Carnegie Avenue,
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Introduction

Jacqueline Brown was deemed registered under the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 in April 2002 and is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children under the age of 16, 6 of whom may be under the age of 12 of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under the age of 12 months except in the case of siblings.

Mrs Brown lives in Glenrothes, with her partner and 3 children.

The aims and objectives of the service state:

"Working in Partnership with Parents/Families:

As a registered Childminder I will never try to take over the role of the parents or to see myself as a substitute for parents.

Respect will be shown for families' traditions and childcare practises, and my childcare practises will be in harmony with the values, practices and wishes of the parents....."

Basis of Report

This report is based on evidence produced, observations made, discussions with Mrs Brown and a premises check during the announced standard inspection on 31st August 2006 and the subsequent visit on 18th September 2006.

The annual return document had not been submitted at the time of the inspection visit.

The inspection took account of the sections of The Regulation of Care (Requirements as to Care Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2002 Statutory Instrument 114 and the National Care Standards.

This service was assessed as requiring medium level of regulation support and as a result five standards from the 'National Care Standards - Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16' document:

Standard 3 - Health and Wellbeing

Standard 4 - Engaging with Children

Standard 7 - A Caring Environment

Standard 10 - Involving Other Services

Standard 12 - Confidence in Staff

and key themes:

Child Protection

Nutrition

Birth to 3 Matters

Toothbrushing

were used as a focus for the inspection.

Action taken on requirements in last Inspection Report

No requirements were made in the last inspection report.

Comments on Self-Evaluation

The self evaluation document had not been submitted at the time of the inspection visit.

View of Service Users

One child was present during the inspection visit, he appeared relaxed in Mrs Brown's care.

View of Carers

One questionnaire had been returned to the Care Commission as part of the inspection process. This indicated the parent/carer was happy with all aspects of the service.

Regulations / Principles

National Care Standards

National Care Standard Number 3: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Health and Wellbeing

Strengths

Mrs Brown stated she had a good relationship with children and their parents and discussion took place daily regarding events and activities.

Through discussion with Mrs Brown, it was evident that she understood her role and responsibility in protecting children from harm. A statement regarding child protection had been developed and the questionnaire returned to the Care Commission as part of the inspection process indicated this policy and procedure had been shared with parents and carers.

Mrs Brown provided opportunities for children to rest and sleep.

An enclosed garden with play equipment was used to provide opportunities for children to access fresh air and exercise.

Children were encouraged to take responsibility for their own health and hygiene where appropriate. A range of meals and snacks were provided. Through discussion on the day of the inspection visit it was evident that Mrs Brown was promoting healthy eating choices.

Mrs Brown stated road safety and 'stranger danger' were regularly discussed.

Emergency procedures were in place and fire evacuation practices were carried out on a regular basis. Written permission was obtained for the administration of medication and appropriate records were kept.

Areas for Development

The child protection policy in place at the time of inspection did not reflect the recent changes to reporting procedures.

Mrs Brown had a procedure in place that she followed in the event of a child being absent from her service. However, she did not have a written policy which reflected this good practice.

A recommendation is made. (1)

It is recommended that Mrs Brown follows guidance within the document 'Fire Precautions in Domestic Childminding Premises, A Guide to Childminders' in relation to the locking of doors with a key.

A recommendation is made. (2)

National Care Standard Number 4: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Engaging with children

Strengths

Discussion with Mrs Brown evidenced her understanding of the stages of children and young people's development and learning.

Interaction observed on the day of inspection was positive and was used to build esteem and confidence.

Routines had been established and boundaries known. This encouraged children to feel confident and secure.

Individual personalities were known and children's likes and dislikes were taken into consideration when activities were planned.

Mrs Brown confirmed that she would discuss any difficulties regarding children's behaviour with parents as they arose and any behaviour which gave cause for concern would be dealt with discreetly and sensitively.

Mrs Brown stated that children were encouraged to voice their opinions and wishes and that independence appropriate to individual ages and stages of development was promoted.

Information on all aspects of the service was available and easily accessible to parents.

Areas for Development

There are no areas for development at this time.

National Care Standard Number 7: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A Caring Environment

Strengths

A statement of the aims and objectives of the service had been developed and shared with parents.

It was observed that Mrs Brown was in the process of developing a good relationship with the child who was present during the inspection and she stated that she had built positive relationships with other children in her care.

It was stated that children were encouraged to show care and consideration for others, share and take turns and express their views.

Mrs Brown further stated that she liaised closely with parents regarding their child's progress.

A complaints policy and procedure had been developed. The questionnaire returned to the Care Commission as part of the inspection process indicated this policy and procedure had been shared with parents. Mrs Brown stated that no complaints had been made against the service.

Areas for Development

The document 'Birth to Three' should be used as a means of supporting younger children in their learning experiences.

National Care Standard Number 10: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16

- Involving other Services

Strengths

Mrs Brown stated she had established good relationships with local schools and nurseries, and has used a variety of amenities and leisure facilities with the children in her care.

As an experienced childminder Mrs Brown had developed a network of support from other childminders.

Areas for Development

There are no areas for development at this time.

National Care Standard Number 12: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Confidence in Staff

Strengths

Mrs Brown had completed a safe recruitment assessment at the time of registration, and an 'Enhanced Disclosure Scotland' check had been submitted by her partner.

Mrs Brown was aware of the need to adhere to the conditions of registration. A record of children's attendance was kept; this was viewed on the day of inspection and found to be satisfactory.

Discussion on the day of inspection evidenced Mrs Brown's understanding of the importance of accessing training as a means of maintaining and improving the service.

Areas for Development

To continue to access relevant training as it becomes available.

Enforcement

N/A

Other Information

N/A

Requirements

No requirements have been made in this inspection report.

Recommendations**Recommendation 1**

It is recommended that the child protection policy is amended to reflect the recent changes in reporting procedures and includes a statement of the procedure to be followed in the event of a child being absent from her service.

Recommendation 2

It is recommended that Mrs Brown follows guidance within the document 'Fire Precautions in Domestic Childminding Premises, A Guide to Childminders' in relation to the locking of doors with a key.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing.

Fiona Smart

Care Commission Officer