

Boyd, Lorraine Child Minding

Glasgow

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
30 May 2025

Service provided by:
Lorraine Boyd

Service provider number:
SP2003902731

Service no:
CS2003004784

About the service

The childminding service is registered to provide care from Mrs Boyd's home in the Greenfaulds area of Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire. Mrs Boyd is registered to provide care for a maximum of seven children under the age of 16; of whom no more than six will be under 12; of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school; and of whom no more than one is under 12 months. The numbers are inclusive of the childminder's own family.

The service had three children registered to receive care during the week of the inspection, and all three were present on the day of inspection.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 30 May 2025 between 08:50 and 14:15. 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, information submitted by the service, and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with three children using the service, and gathered feedback from all of their families
- spoke with the childminder
- observed children's experiences
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- The childminder's interactions showed they cared for and loved looking after the children, and providing support to families. Extremely close relationships had been formed.
- The children's daily experiences and routine was planned to meet children's needs, wishes, and choices. Providing them with high quality care and support, that was right for them.
- Self evaluation was embedded in the childminder's practice, and they were committed to ensuring they provided high quality outcomes for children.
- The childminder kept well informed of good practice guidance, and had good links with other childminding services.

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?	6 - Excellent
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?

6 - Excellent

We evaluated this key question as excellent, where performance was aspirational with outstandingly high outcomes for children.

Quality indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support

On arrival, the minded children welcomed the inspector, they were extremely confident and settled in the childminder's care. They were keen to share their experiences and talked about their recent visit to the local toddler group. The children continued to involve the inspector in their play throughout the inspection, and shared stories. This demonstrated they were very happy within the setting and the childminder had created an environment enabling children to feel safe and secure.

The childminding service was registered as a food business and provided the children with healthy and nutritious homecooked meals. The minded children told us they really liked the food options and confirmed that they were given healthy choices. On the day of the inspection, children were having home made pasta salad, which they ate together, sitting around the table in the kitchen, whilst they chatted about their day. We heard children making choices about the foods and dietary requirements, and personal preferences being respected. Mealtimes were an important part of the children's day as they were given time to relax and come together. The childminder was extremely well informed with children's nutrition, and as a result, provided healthy foods, with an occasional homemade treat. All parents were extremely happy with the meals their children received. One parent told us, "Lorraine provides the most delicious and nutritious home cooked meals" and another told us, "My child is regularly exposed to and encouraged to try new foods." To further enable children to have a healthy relationship with food, children regularly participated in positive play experiences, such as, role play and home baking.

Children's health and wellbeing was fully supported during their time in the service. The childminder was extremely well informed about the importance of providing a nurturing environment, and supporting children to express their feelings. One minded child told us they had made a cosy corner with cushions in the living room, as they wanted to sit in there and read books. The childminder's interactions with the children were respectful and caring. The childminder's home was exceptionally welcoming and created a nurturing and caring environment for children.

Each child's personal preferences and needs were being supported. The childminder gathered meaningful information and kept extremely detailed records, that demonstrated children had been receiving the right care and support to meet their needs. Observations were recorded and used to plan next steps, and developmental reviews were shared with parents. Parents told us they were extremely happy with the quality of the service their child received. One parent told us, "My childminder communicates with us regularly both formally and informally and because of this we have an excellent understanding of where my child is developmentally" and another shared, "Lorraine involves parents well and communicates extremely well about all aspects of our child's care and learning."

Quality indicator 1.3: Play and learning

A day in the life of a child attending the service included participating in a well planned daily routine, which included a variety of play experiences and materials. The children told us about the types of things they enjoyed learning, this included early numeracy and literacy. The children's development records demonstrated how they had made progress in all developmental areas. Parents strongly agreed children had exceptionally good play and learning experiences. One parent told us, "Termly reviews are extremely detailed and give us a clear understanding of our child's development" and another told us, "We also receive thorough reports throughout the year detailing my child's achievements and learning outcomes/targets."

Children had access to the secure outdoor space. Children self-selected if they wanted to play inside or outside, the childminder was skilled at supporting this. To further extend children's learning experiences, they regularly visited local groups and amenities. One child talked with huge excitement about their recent visit to the local fire station. Parents told us they were extremely happy with the variety of play and learning experiences their children participated in. They shared with us that the experiences were well planned, and that they incorporated children's interests, such as, their love of music and stories, and to support this, the childminder had taken the children to visit local theatres and museums. The children's daily routine incorporated meaningful and well balanced outdoor play, both at home and out in the local community.

The childminder's understanding of child development, use of theory, and good practice guidance, enabled them to plan the right care, play, and learning experiences. The experiences and materials provided children with the opportunities to stimulate, challenge, and nurture their rights to play and learn lifelong skills.

How good is our setting?**5 - Very Good**

We evaluated this key question as very good, as we found significant strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children.

Quality indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

The childminder's home was welcoming and well presented. The house was well ventilated and heated, with lots of lots of natural light. The areas used for childminding were clean and tidy, and appropriate risk assessments had been completed. The childminder discussed how they would review safety measures, for example, as the age of children attending changed according to their needs. The childminder was fully aware of their role and responsibilities to keep children safe, and to ensure their home had appropriate safety measures in place.

The minding areas, indoors and outdoors, were spacious and well resourced, allowing children to play and have fun learning new things. The childminder ensured daily that the toys available met the children's interests, such as, magnetic building toys, books, and dolls. On the day of the inspection, we observed a minded child having fun playing with play dough pretending to make pizzas. The minded children were engaged in their play and were relaxed and confident within the childminder's home. Every morning they visited areas in the local community, which children loved.

The childminder followed good infection prevention and control practices to reduce the spread of infection, this included good hand hygiene, and children had easy access to a downstairs toilet. The childminder's kitchen was kept clean, and they followed the food safety guidelines in line with the most up-to-date national guidance.

Parents told us they found the childminder's home to be safe, clean, and well resourced. They told us, "Lorraine has a well-equipped and safe outdoor area for the children to access" and another told us, "Lorraine's home is well laid out and organised to provide different areas for different activities which the children can safely access as they wish, i.e., the book corner, child sized table in the kitchen for crafting, toy boxes. Lorraine regularly rotates the toys available."

Overall, the childminder made very good use of the space and materials available to them at home and in the local community.

How good is our leadership?

5 - Very Good

We evaluated this key question as very good, as we found significant strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children.

Quality indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well

The childminder engaged well with the inspection process. They were very welcoming, sourced records we requested, and answered questions we asked, to support the evaluation of the service.

The childminder kept records of the children's attendance. They understood and followed the service's conditions of registration, and the current registration certificate was made available to parents.

We discussed with the childminder, the information submitted within the annual return and self-assessment, notifications, and changes to the inspection process. We found the information provided by the service to be a true and accurate reflection of the service provided.

Since the last inspection, the childminder had continued to make improvements to the service to further enhance the outcomes for children. This included, further developing their skills and knowledge, for example, in using self-evaluation tools and planning for improvement. They had used different methods and had successfully found a format that was working well for them. We could see the childminder was committed to ensure they provided high quality care and support.

The childminder told us they had attended training to keep themselves well informed about good practice guidance and changes within childcare. This included keeping up to date with first aid and child protection. The childminder kept well informed about changes within the childcare sector, through reading information received from the Care Inspectorate and Scottish Childminding Association. They were also very active within the local childminder group, sharing good practice and working together to broaden children's experiences. We found the childminder to be very well informed and to be well organised, providing a service that reflects the values and principles of a high quality child care service.

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

We evaluated this key question as very good, as we found significant strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children.

Quality indicator 4.1: Staff skills, knowledge and values

The childminder was caring, compassionate, and loving towards the children and families using the service. They had created an environment where children's needs were being supported and their interests followed.

The childminder knew each child very well and worked closely with parents to meet their needs and expectations. All parents told us they had formed strong bonds with the childminder. When asked, "What do you think are the most positive aspects of your child's experiences in the childminding service?" they told us, "The service provided is nothing short of excellent and we are amazed with the amount of opportunities provided for all our children" and another shared, "The bonds my child has with Lorraine and the other children. My child has learned the value of good friendships, how to be kind, caring and considerate. Lorraine is a fantastic leader."

When talking about children and families, the childminder did so with love, respect, and kindness. Therefore, we concluded they worked in true partnership with families to meet children's needs.

The wellbeing indicators and children's rights were embedded within the service, and you could see these were weaved within the childminder's professional values. The care, play, and learning provided quality care and support that was right for each child. The parents, when asked, "What would make the service better?" made no suggestions. However, they did share with us comments made by the children, which included how they loved going to the childminder and seeing their friends.

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?	6 - Excellent
1.1 Nurturing care and support	6 - Excellent
1.3 Play and learning	6 - Excellent

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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