Smallworld Children's Nursery and Daycare
Day Care of Children

15 Bank Street
Brechin
DD9 6AU

Telephone: 01356 623362

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 29 March 2017

Service provided by:
Aden Projects Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2004935764

Care service number:
CS2003043419
About the service

Smallworld Children’s Nursery and Daycare is in the town of Brechin, Angus. The location of the nursery in the town centre supports staff to access many amenities such as, the library, local walks and shops.

The service is registered to provide a care service for a maximum of 83 children at any time aged 0-12 years old, of whom no more than 15 are under two years and no more than 20 are aged two to under three years old.

Their Aims & Objectives are as follows:

“To provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment for all-round child development.
To help children develop intellectually through a balance of directed and free choice activities.
Continuity of care for all children and flexible care routines.
To create a stimulating and challenging environment, providing opportunities for learning through play and covering the five key areas.
To encourage children to develop self-control, self-direction and independence.
To develop self-expression through various activities such as drama, music, story-telling, block building and other forms of play.
To provide a warm and welcome atmosphere with good staff, child and parent relationships.
To ensure a safe environment that protects children from harm, abuse and neglect.
Develop respect for individual and cultural differences.
Effective use of assessment information to identify needs and plan the next steps for learning and evaluating regularly to meet changing needs.
High standard of thoughtful and courteous behaviour.
A good clear concise monitoring and evaluation system and effective use of policies”.

What people told us

Parents told us:
The comments below represent many of the parent’s views.

“My child loves attending the nursery and really enjoys a great range of activities; such as, the music sessions which are taken by a Music Teacher.”

“I feel very confident with the care my child receives. I see him developing and I am very happy he attends the nursery.”

“Staff worked with me to support my child starting the nursery. I was able to spend time with my child’s Keyworker to discuss her individual feeding plan. Staff were so supportive with us.”

“My son loves all the girls and the friendships he has made.”

“We find the staff very approachable and my child speaks about the ladies at home. We notice how her learning has come on.”

“I really enjoy getting my weekly emails. Telling us about what they are doing in the baby room and the coming events. It is a very friendly and clean nursery.”
Children:
Some of the children we spoke to in the 2-3 age groups were rather young to talk to us about their experience in the service; however, we could see they were happy in their play and interacted positively with the staff.

Children we could see had a positive experience while attending the service.

Self assessment
The Care Inspectorate received a self-assessment document from the provider. This described the service provided. We were satisfied with the way the provider completed this.

The provider identified what it thought the service did well, some areas for development and any changes it had planned.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of care and support</td>
<td>5 - Very Good</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of environment</td>
<td>5 - Very Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of staffing</td>
<td>not assessed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of management and leadership</td>
<td>not assessed</td>
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</tbody>
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What the service does well
We focussed on the following aspect:
‘Areas of care and support for 2-3 year olds’.
From the evidence gathered during our inspection we assessed this theme as very good. We found a high standard of care and support provided to children in this age group. Staff responded instinctively to children’s needs and provided lots of cuddles to children when asked or required.

We could see that consultation was fixed in practice and this included when required, working with other specialists. This shared commitment helped to raise attainment for all children using the service.

One parent told us “The nursery organised a meeting with a specific specialist who suggested a number of strategies and this helped us.” This confirmed to us that staff effectively supported children’s emotional health and wellbeing and supported parents to make positive links with other specialists when required.

We could see that children were happy, engaged and learning. A good example of this took place during lunch time, children sitting together and chatting and making real friendships. Staff created a calming atmosphere that supported this age group to interact and engage with one another in a respectful caring manner.

The manager had a sound knowledge of child protection and related issues sharing significant information with other specialists ensured that informed decisions were made about the best way to support the child and their family.
Overall, the feedback we received from parents/carers confirmed that the service played an important role in their child’s happiness and development.

We focussed on the following aspect:
‘Areas of the environment for 2-3 year olds’
From the evidence gathered during our inspection we assessed this theme as very good. The service had increased the overall numbers for 2-3 year olds and staff were generally observed to provide caring, trusting experiences for the children.

Staff worked closely with parents to ensure they had a suitable individual transition programme for children moving into the nursery or moving from the baby rooms to the 2-3 rooms. This enabled staff to prepare the environment to suit the needs of the child.

We could see the rooms used by the 2-3 year olds were well laid out to accommodate the interests of the children. Children were seen to access toys from shelving and open trays. This supported them to make choices and encouraged their independence.

Children were seen to be engaged in a range of activities that were interesting and stimulating, providing a choice of challenging opportunities. A good example of this was the comfortable cosy areas supporting children to rest or sleep if required.

The room was adapted by staff depending on the needs and interests of the children. Staff provided appropriate activities that held the interest of children. Children were engaged in a range of activities that included the outdoor area.

We observed outdoors that children were supported by staff to take suitable risks that challenged their learning and development.

Overall, evidence confirmed that children were provided with an environment that challenged their stage of development.

What the service could do better

Care plans/Personal plans
We found that not all two years old had plans in place. The provider is required to have a comprehensive plan in place for each child. For example, this should detail the agreed actions and strategies for meeting the child’s needs and provide evidence of consultation with the appropriate parent/carer. This will help to effectively inform staff practice and show evidence of improvement, impact and good outcomes for each child in the 2-3-year-old room.

We suggested that plans should be more comprehensive to support staff to plan more for children’s individual needs. We sign posted management and staff to the website ‘The National Improvement Hub’ (NIH) and to the following resource: ‘Effective observation leading to effective assessment’. This will help staff to further support children’s learning.

Accident and incident records should be formerly audited by staff to monitor for any patterns or concerns. This would help staff to act accordingly.
Children could be formally included in relevant risk assessments. This would evidence that children were included and would encourage responsibility.

The service is required to submit to us a ‘Change of Manager’ form. This will enable us to assess and process the changes and issue the service with a new registration certificate.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.
## Inspection and grading history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Gradings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Unannounced</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Staffing 6 - Excellent</td>
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<td>Management and leadership 6 - Excellent</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Staffing 6 - Excellent</td>
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<td>Management and leadership 6 - Excellent</td>
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<td>30 Aug 2010</td>
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