

Keith Play Centre Nursery (and Nippers 2-3 Group)

Day Care of Children

Keith Sports and Community Centre
Banff Road
Keith
AB55 5GT

Telephone: 01542 886142

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 15 May 2017

Service provided by:
Keith Play Centre Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2007008878

Care service number:
CS2007143604

About the service

Keith Play Centre Nursery (and Nippers 2-3 Group) is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children at any one time aged from 3 to not yet attending primary school and 15 children aged 2-3 years in the Nippers group. To provide a care service to a maximum of 25 children aged from 3 years to 9 years in the after school club. The service was previously registered and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

The service operates from two rooms within Keith community centre. The playroom on the ground floor has direct access to a secure outdoor play area; the upper has access via an external stairway. The service has use of an adjacent sports hall on a regular basis and swimming pool once a week.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC, safe, healthy, achieving, active, respected, responsible and included (also known as SHANARRI).

The aims and objectives of the service include:

- to provide a happy, safe, supportive and stimulating environment promoting achievement for all and celebrating success.

What people told us

There was a total of 46 children present during the inspection. We observed the children enjoying play in the pretend hairdressers, cutting, making things with play dough, active play in the sports hall and a group of children in the morning, outdoors for a while. We talked with pre-school who told us that they thought being at nursery was fun, they liked the sports hall and swimming. Specific comments included:

- 'we go swimming every week'
- 'we can practice running and jumping in the hall'
- 'we stand in a line before we go to the hall and take our time down the steps'
- 'I like the cars'.

Ten parents returned completed care standards questionnaires. We spoke with six parents. They all told us that overall they were happy with the service, they were kept well informed and were invited to visit the service. Staff were friendly and helpful. Specific comments included:

- 'we get e-mails, letters and written information'
- 'lots of opportunity for outdoor play'
- 'happy with the service, staff are very nice and I know my child is safe'
- 'staff are good at providing feedback to parents and highlighting any issues'
- 'I am happy for my child to stay at the service until they go to primary school'
- 'I am very happy with the centre, I like how they provide photographs in my child's home link book'.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own quality assurance processes and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	3 - Adequate
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	3 - Adequate

What the service does well

Children experienced a welcoming and friendly environment that resulted in children being relaxed and assured. Children moved freely around the play space which was free from hazards and independence skills were being promoted, for example, during hand washing and when helping themselves to utensils for snack and clearing away afterwards. Some of the children enjoyed imaginary play in the pretend hairdressers, doing each other's hair, cutting out pictures and matching games. Children told us:

'look I have put all of the clips in XXX hair'
 'this is the hairdressers, we wash hair and then brush it'
 'I like playing with the play dough, I made a fish'
 'I am going to choose a picture to cut out'.

The manager and staff knew the children well and had liaised with parents with a view to children receiving the support they needed, as in the national approach: Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). Staff used kind words and calm voices, encouraged the children to listen to each other during together time and to cooperate in play. Parents told us that the staff were approachable and good at sharing information, they created a caring and happy place for their child(ren).

Snacks and meals consisted of a range of healthy foods which were nutritious and complied with children's dietary and religious needs. Appropriate documentation was in place for the management of medication to promote children's wellbeing. Children enjoyed being active in the large sports hall, running and jumping and talking about the effect on their heart as part of learning about being healthy. Younger children enjoyed using ride on toys and kicking balls to help develop their physical skills. A group of children played outside for a while where they were able to explore and be creative with more natural resources. All of the children also went swimming on a weekly basis, helping to promote their physical and emotional wellbeing.

Parents/carers had some opportunities to be involved in the day to day life of the nursery as parent helpers and during stay 'n' play sessions, for example. The manager had some systems in place for monitoring and evaluated the service such as individual staff support and supervision and staff meetings.

What the service could do better

We considered that there was considerable scope for play to be child led and to capture children's interests. Resources and materials should be more readily accessible and varied, so that children can direct their learning, make choices about activities that challenge them and result in them having to find things out for themselves. This matter was discussed with the manager with a view to more creative, curious and sensory play, indoors and outdoors, being promoted across the service. We suggested the manager and staff revisit: the national practice guidance document on early learning and childcare - Building the Ambition and also seek/accept support from the local early years education service

The manager should ensure that as required medication is reviewed a minimum of 3 monthly to check that the medication is still required and that the dose has not changed.

Whilst we acknowledged that staff knew the children well and liaised with families, to support children's wellbeing and early intervention (GIRFEC approach), we discussed with the manager the benefits of effective recording and writing down relevant information relating to a child. **(see Recommendation 1)**

The manager was advised to ensure that effective and robust child protection procedures were in place, to contribute to children's safety and welfare. **(see Recommendation 2)**

To enhance learning experiences for the children, staff needed opportunities to improve their own skills and knowledge. **(see Recommendation 3)**

A discussion took place with the manager regarding staff registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). **(see Recommendation 4)**

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 4

1. To help with monitoring early identification of need, recording specific issues/changes relating to a child and any action taken. We suggested that the manager would find it useful to introduce chronologies to document significant events, contributing to the GIRFEC approach. Further guidance is available in practice guide to chronologies - hub.careinspectorate and practitioners guide to chronologies - www.moray.gov.uk/downloads

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

2. The manager and staff should undertake refresher training in child protection to ensure that they have sound knowledge and an appropriate understanding of safeguarding children.

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

3. The manager should ensure that professional development and needs of individual staff and team training needs, are identified through the support and supervision programme. Training should also be planned, shared and evaluated with a view to promoting a culture that values staff.

National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the Age of 16 – Standard 12: Confidence in Staff.

4. The manager and staff should ensure that their registration with the Scottish Social Services Council is maintained and does not lapse.

National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the Age of 16, Standard 12: Confidence in staff

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

Date	Type	Gradings	
20 Apr 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
30 Apr 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
25 May 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
21 Jun 2010	Announced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
27 May 2009	Announced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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