

Hayshead Playgroup Day Care of Children

Hayshead Primary School
St. Abb's Road
Arbroath
DD11 5AB

Telephone: 01241 433798

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 5 May 2017

Service provided by:
Hayshead Playgroup

Service provider number:
SP2003000598

Care service number:
CS2003002993

About the service

Hayshead Playgroup is registered to provide a service to a maximum of 21 children aged from two years to those not yet attending primary school. The playgroup operated from a classroom within Hayshead Primary School and has access to its own outdoor play and garden area. The playgroup is managed overall by a parent committee.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate in April 2011.

The playgroup works in partnership with the local authority who provides early learning and childcare funding for those children who are eligible.

The aims of the service include the provision of a safe and stimulating environment in which staff encourage the emotional, social, physical and intellectual development of children.

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 parents to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting It Right For Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

We observed the children to be happy and relaxed around the staff. They were all engaged in a variety of activities and independently chose the toys and resources they wanted to play with. Some of the older children told us about snack and what they enjoyed doing while at the service.

"I like apples."

"We have lots of things to eat."

"I'm having bread."

"I like playing with my friends."

"I like the red and yellow skuttlebugs."

"That's sand."

"I'm making a yucky cake."

We sent questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents. We received two completed questionnaires before the inspection. The parents were very happy with the care their children received. We also spoke with some parents who were present during our visit. They commented positively about the staff team. Parents told us that they were included in everything and were kept well-informed about what was happening at the Playgroup. They were encouraged to share their views as were the children and were regularly asked if any improvements could be made to the service.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed with the management their priorities for improvement and looked at documentation and paperwork that supported the evaluation of the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Quality of care and support | 5 - Very Good |
| Quality of environment | 5 - Very Good |
| Quality of staffing | not assessed |
| Quality of management and leadership | not assessed |

What the service does well

We found that children were happy, secure and confident. We observed a caring, nurturing and motivated staff team who ensured that children's care needs were met sensitively and respectfully. Staff demonstrated patient, gentle and positive interactions with children. They were responsive to the children, very observant of children's cues and consistent in their approach. Children were encouraged to be independent and were supported where needed. They made choices and accessed activities and resources with ease. We heard children praised and encouraged throughout the visit, with achievements recognised and celebrated.

Staff knew children well and had a thorough understanding of children's needs and how they were being supported and met. Detailed information was gathered to support staff in caring for the children; this was reviewed at least every six months to ensure it was up to date and relevant. We saw staff were undertaking observations, demonstrating that they were monitoring and assessing children's development and learning. This information helped them plan activities in response to children's interests and needs.

Healthy lifestyles were encouraged at the service. Snacks were chosen and prepared by the children encouraging and developing skills such as, cutting, spreading and pouring.

The playgroup staff had created stimulating environments indoors and outdoors with the help of parents and children. Quality resources that were age and stage appropriate were available to support children in their development and learning. Children's artwork was displayed around the playroom and reflected their interests, ideas and learning.

During the inspection visit, the children spent most of their time playing in the playgroup garden, going inside to have snack when they wished. This area was well-developed and children's curiosity was encouraged through a variety of activities and experiences. The children had fun exploring, investigating and playing with friends. They were supported to share and take turns. Staff, giving children freedom to develop and learn at their own pace, managed the garden very well. Risk assessments and supervision were effective and children were encouraged and supported to risk assess their play. The staff team discussed their plans to further develop the garden for the continued benefit of the children.

What the service could do better

We reminded the manager that all paperwork and documentation should be dated to help with the monitoring of personal plans and the evaluation of the service.

During the inspection, we observed two doors to the school building wedged open for some time. As the staff were in the garden, these doors could not be monitored for people accessing. The manager explained that the playgroup does not have a fob to open the doors to enter the building so they keep the playgroup door open. A delivery driver had left the other entrance to the school open. The manager agreed to discuss these matters with the Headteacher.

The nappy changing policy should be updated so staff are following best practice guidance when nappy changing. We also discussed with the manager the use of potties in the shared children's toilet and supporting children with handwashing at snack.

We asked the manager to remind parents of the mobile phone policy within the service. She discussed this with us and advised that the policy would be included in the welcome pack that all parents receive when their children start at the service.

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

| Date | Type | Gradings | |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|----------|
| 30 Apr 2015 | Unannounced | Care and support | 4 - Good |
| | | Environment | 4 - Good |

| Date | Type | Gradings | |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | | Staffing | 4 - Good |
| | | Management and leadership | 4 - Good |
| 9 May 2013 | Unannounced | Care and support | 4 - Good |
| | | Environment | 4 - Good |
| | | Staffing | 5 - Very good |
| | | Management and leadership | 4 - Good |
| 7 Dec 2012 | Unannounced | Care and support | 3 - Adequate |
| | | Environment | 3 - Adequate |
| | | Staffing | 3 - Adequate |
| | | Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate |
| 29 Mar 2012 | Re-grade | Care and support | Not assessed |
| | | Environment | Not assessed |
| | | Staffing | Not assessed |
| | | Management and leadership | 1 - Unsatisfactory |
| 20 Jan 2011 | Unannounced | Care and support | 4 - Good |
| | | Environment | Not assessed |
| | | Staffing | Not assessed |
| | | Management and leadership | Not assessed |
| 26 Feb 2010 | Unannounced | Care and support | 5 - Very good |
| | | Environment | Not assessed |
| | | Staffing | 4 - Good |
| | | Management and leadership | Not assessed |
| 12 Nov 2008 | Unannounced | Care and support | 5 - Very good |
| | | Environment | 5 - Very good |
| | | Staffing | 5 - Very good |
| | | Management and leadership | 5 - Very good |

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