

# Little Einstein's Nithsdale Day Care of Children

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Glasgow  
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Telephone: 0141 423 1308

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 9 February 2018

**Service provided by:**  
Forth Care Limited

**Service provider number:**  
SP2014012365

**Care service number:**  
CS2014332130

## About the service

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 16 March 2015.

Little Einstein's Nithsdale is one of six nurseries owned and operated by Forth Care Limited. The service is based in the southside of Glasgow.

The nursery provides early learning and childcare to a maximum of 63 children aged from six weeks of age to entry to primary school age.

- 24 children 0 to under 2 years.
- 18 children 2 to under 3 years.
- 21 children 3 to those not yet attending primary school.

The provider's principles include:

- 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.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). This is 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 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 received the following comments from parents and carers.

'Staff are overall brilliant and my daughter is eager to go to nursery in the morning to tell her friends/staff what she has been doing.'

'I am very happy with the service my child receives. The staff are all caring, nurturing and fun. This is a happy place to be. The management also take parents' comments into account - I suggested some changes to the menu and it was actioned.'

'This is a great nursery and I'm fully confident my child is in a happy and stimulating environment.'

'The only thing the nursery could do is use more technology with electronic newsletters, diary system.'

'A very easy going, comfortable setting for children. The staff are extremely caring, supportive and always in communication ... My child's key worker has been extremely sensitive to my child and constantly acknowledging his needs. I can see how he has flourished in the last year.'

'I feel that there should be more opportunities for my child to go to the park etc and more/ different trips to further her knowledge. Should have more of a variety of toys to rotate for her age range.'

## Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at the service's improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

## What the service does well

We found that, overall, the quality of care provided for children was very good.

Children throughout the nursery had a personal plan where parents and staff recorded valuable information to support their individual wellbeing needs. Plans included contact and medical information, an All About Me sheet provided by parents and a profile completed by staff. The nursery worked with other professionals and services to offer additional support to children if, and when, required.

Older children were established in their playroom with a familiar staff group. They had developed very good relationships with the adults who cared for them.

Children spoke confidently about the activities and resources they enjoyed and the choices they made. Staff valued their opinions and encouraged them to share their ideas, involving them when setting up the playroom. This was evident as we observed children planning how they would rearrange the home corner to accommodate their plans to add a garage. Staff offered to assist them by providing resources.

Many of the younger children had recently moved to a new room and were building relationships with a new group of staff. We noted there were detailed transition arrangements in place to support children and offer continuity. This included a member of staff moving with them and a detailed report shared between key workers. We noted that parents were asked to complete an updated All About Me sheet at this stage. This information meant that new key workers were familiar with children's interests, personality, routine and developmental stage and could respond appropriately.

Some staff were working with new age groups of children. In response to these changes, the manager had developed a training workshop on the practice document Building the Ambition. The workshop would give staff the opportunity to review and develop their practice.

Children's lunches were nutritious and cooked on the premises.

Through speaking with staff, we found that they understood their role and responsibility in protecting children. They were aware of procedures within the service for reporting concerns.

Children had daily access to fresh air. Toddlers and older children played in the nursery garden. Staff took babies for walks in the community and visits to a local park.

Children were cared for in rooms dependant on their age group. Each of the playrooms was furnished to meet the needs of the children present. Since our last inspection, staff had improved how toys were stored. Some resources were stored in shelves and drawers at children's height and photographic labels helped them choose independently.

## What the service could do better

We noted that while children had the opportunity to play outdoors, this was limited as each age group was allocated a time. We discussed this with management team, asking them to consider how children could have more frequent opportunities to play outdoors.

During our last inspection, the manager shared a written plan of how they planned to improve the outdoor area, offering children a wider range of experiences. They had made some progress in terms of introducing new resources such as a mud kitchen. However, we asked that they continue with their planned development of the nursery garden with a view to creating a richer learning environment. (See recommendation 1)

Childcare staff undertook cleaning duties throughout the nursery. We noted that some areas of the nursery were in need of further cleaning. The provider should consider introducing additional cleaning arrangements outwith nursery hours.

We noted that some areas of the nursery were in need of maintenance. In particular, the outdoor area. (See recommendation 2)

Due to a recent incident, one of the perimeter gates had been damaged. The service had put barriers in place and new risk assessment procedures had been implemented to limit any hazard to staff and children. Prior to publishing this report, we received written confirmation that the repair work had been carried out.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 2

1. The provider should develop the outdoor environment to provide children with regular access to active play in a stimulating space.

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

2. The provider should ensure that regular maintenance work is carried out to ensure the environment is safe and suitable for children.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 2 - A Safe Environment.

## Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Grading	
2 Mar 2016	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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