

The Kindergarten (Inverness) Day Care of Children

41 Ballifeary Road
Inverness
IV3 5PG

Telephone: 01463 223774

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 27 March 2018

Service provided by:
Cowan, Susan

Service provider number:
SP2003001873

Care service number:
CS2003008704

About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com.

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

The Kindergarten Nursery is registered to provide care to a maximum of 16 children aged from two years to those not yet attending primary school.

The service is operated from a large room and has open access to an extensive outdoor areas. We believe the service offered excellent opportunities for children to explore, engage in active and creative play. Staffing levels meet recommended ratios.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

What people told us

Parents and carers spoke very positively of the staff interaction with both children and themselves. Staff were said to be friendly and approachable and the children looked forward to coming to the service. We sent eight care standards questionnaires to parents/carers of children who attended the service. We received six completed questionnaires before the inspection took place.

Comments received included the following:

"Amazing nursery, my child is always coming home telling me about the new things they have learnt. They struggled with some social interaction and speech, but the staff were brilliant with giving one to one time and helping us get in touch with service to support him..... A perfect nursery."

Self assessment

In line with Care Inspectorate expectation the service did not provide an up to date self assessment. We instead discussed with staff the service improvement plan linked to developments within the nursery.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Quality of care and support | 6 - Excellent |
| Quality of environment | 6 - Excellent |
| Quality of staffing | not assessed |
| Quality of management and leadership | not assessed |

What the service does well

The children's physical and emotional wellbeing was promoted by a warm, caring and very enthusiastic team of staff. We saw that the care given was relaxed as the adult to child ratio was met and therefore staff had the time and opportunity to play with the children and spend time with individuals. Children were cared for in an unhurried relaxed way that made children feel nurtured and valued. Staff supported the children who's second language is English in such a way that all the children could share and develop their knowledge of both languages being used in the nursery and also in a way that the children were included and treated with respect by staff. We noted that staff created opportunities for parents/carers to share information about the children through learning journeys and weekly emails to parents reviewing their child's progress during the previous week. This shared information helped the staff be more aware of current areas of interest or any points to take into account when supporting the children's exploratory play. Staff provided children with appropriate reassurance, space and time for the children to express their wishes.

Security within the service was appropriate with a secure door system in place and a visitors signing in book. Staff noted that the current lock on the garden gate will need replacing shortly and plans were agreed to carry this work out.

Children were cared for in an very well resourced environment that was comfortable and where staff continually sought to update opportunities for play both indoor and out. The children found it easy to do things for themselves as there were an extensive range of toys and equipment which were 'to hand' in both areas which the children could access through the main doors leading into the outside area.

Mind maps assisted staff in supporting children in purposefully shaping their learning. Staff promoted opportunities for children to be active using ride on bikes, running or action songs. The staff group were focussed on ensuring transition planning for the children remained a priority and links with the early level class teachers in feeder schools were seen as important.

When discussing information held regarding children's health needs, we found staff to have a very good understanding of how these needs should be reviewed and they were able to ensure the children and parents were very well supported.

Staff recognised the importance of working with external agencies to ensure children with identified additional needs were appropriately supported. The children have regular access to active play and staff were keen to

maximise the use of the outdoor environment. The children also regularly had access to the local resources and wooded areas where nature and active exploration was often the focus of the activities.

What the service could do better

We noted that incident reporting procedures had been reviewed. In reviewing accident reporting we noted areas where this could be further developed. A prompt to seek information as to the size and location of injury would be beneficial. We also noted that a section linked to the review of the report by a manager would also be helpful in supporting the regular audit of these occurrences.

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 |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| 5 Feb 2016 | Unannounced | Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 6 - Excellent Staffing 6 - Excellent Management and leadership 6 - Excellent |
| 10 Feb 2014 | Unannounced | Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 6 - Excellent Management and leadership 5 - Very good |
| 15 May 2012 | Unannounced | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good |

| Date | Type | Gradings | |
|-------------|-------------|--|--|
| | | Staffing Management and leadership | 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good |
| 16 Mar 2010 | Unannounced | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 5 - Very good Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed |
| 26 Feb 2009 | Unannounced | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good |

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