

Summerside Kindergarten Limited

Day Care of Children

1 Summerside Street
Edinburgh
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Telephone: 0131 554 6560

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 13 March 2018

Service provided by:
Summerside Kindergarten Limited

Service provider number:
SP2014012304

Care service number:
CS2014325935

About the service

Summerside Kindergarten Limited registered with the Care Inspectorate in 2014. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 35 children aged from three months of age to entry to primary school age, with a maximum of nine children under two years.

The service is based in the Trinity area of Edinburgh. The main accommodation consists of four playrooms, entrance corridor, cloakroom, children's toilets and changing areas, kitchen and enclosed garden. The service also has its own allotment, which children regularly visit.

The service aims to "provide a learning environment where children feel safe and secure within our care".

On the day of the inspection, the registered manager was not available. We found that the nursery was managed, on a regular basis, by an identified management team. We have referred to the member of staff, with delegated management responsibility, as the manager throughout this report. The nursery also has a depute manager and two room seniors.

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

There were 29 children present on the first day of the inspection and 31 children on the second day. Some of the older children told us what they liked about nursery and what they had been learning about. Their comments included:

"I like to play with the cars and I like to draw pictures".

"We have been learning about how cotton wool is made. It comes from the plant".

We sent out 15 Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQ's) prior to the inspection. Nine completed questionnaires were returned. All parents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service".

We spoke to a further two parents on the day of the inspection. Comments from both sources included:

"My daughter loves it here. The learning journals really keep us up to date on what she has been doing".

"Staff are caring, hard working and create a stimulating and emotionally secure environment for the children. All aspects of my child's development and learning are carefully nurtured and the nursery are excellent at providing feedback regarding emotional and educational milestones".

"Summerside Kindergarten is a lovely place that my baby clearly loves".

"We are very pleased with the nursery and level of care provided. We especially like that the children spend a lot of time outdoors either in the garden/nursery allotment and also walks in local parks. Staff are knowledgeable, approachable and very supportive of the children".

"Staff are very good at providing information on how my son has been each day. I enjoy being kept up to date through Class Dojo app and active learning journal".

"We are extremely happy with the service that Summerside provides. My child seems to have built really positive relationships with all members of staff. He is very happy to go to nursery and talks about his friends and the staff at home. The staff always seem to have time to talk to me and listen to any concerns around my sons development or behaviour. The atmosphere always seems very positive and happy. I have recommended the nursery to a number of friends".

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

Most children appeared happy during our inspection visits. We could see that they had developed positive relationships with staff. This supported them to feel secure and included. Children benefitted from interactions that were warm and kind, receiving reassurance and comfort when they needed it.

Children were respected as planning took account of their interests and ideas. This was particularly evident in the preschool room. Most children were confident engaging adults in their play suggesting they were used to having their ideas valued. Children were able to tell us what they had been learning and were keen to share their nursery experiences with us. Most staff were able to promote and extend children's learning by offering additional support and resources. Children were included in the local community as they regularly accessed the nursery allotment and went on local walks. These experiences supported them to learn about the natural world.

Children in the baby and tweenies' rooms were benefitting from the introduction of more natural materials; these were supporting them to learn through curiosity and enquiry. Staff had accessed training in relation to

heuristic play and outdoor learning. This was helping them to provide children with different experiences and resources. Staff were enthusiastic about recent training and keen to develop their practice.

Children were safeguarded, as staff were able to manage any child protection concerns. Staff and management had attended appropriate training that provided them with the knowledge and skills required. Staff had completed first aid training that supported them to keep children safe and healthy.

Children received a continuity of care due to effective communication between parents and the nursery. Staff knew most children and families well, meaning they were respected and included in the life of the nursery. Online learning journals were updated regularly supporting parents to be included in their child's learning.

Regular staff meetings were beginning to offer opportunities for staff to meet and share information. This was supporting them to work together and consider different areas of their work. Staff had regular appraisals that helped them to set targets and consider training needs. We discussed with the manager how these appraisals could be adapted to make them more meaningful and reflective. This would support staff to consider their own professional development and practice, specifically in relation to promoting positive outcomes for children.

What the service could do better

Younger children did not receive appropriate support at lunchtime. The environment was noisy and chaotic resulting in some children becoming upset or frustrated. We asked the service to review the lunchtime experience and use best practice such as Building the Ambition in order to provide a more positive experience for children. (Recommendation 1).

The manager or a staff member prepared all meals and snacks. They had completed food hygiene training, however were not implementing the current best practice guidance 'Setting the Table' (NHS Health Scotland). We saw that children were offered pots of flavoured yoghurt that were relatively high in sugar. We asked the service to review their menus and meal times. This was to ensure children are healthy and develop positive eating habits whilst receiving nutritious, well-balanced meals. (Recommendation 2).

Sleep arrangements for children were not comfortable or nurturing. The room children slept in was cramped and children did not have enough space between their mats. Staff were not able to move easily between mats to check on children. We asked the service to address this immediately. When we returned on the second day, the manager informed us that babies would now sleep in their own room and the staff lunch rota would be reviewed to ensure there was sufficient staffing available to support children at sleep times. The manager should continue to review the sleep arrangements and staff practice so that children's needs are sensitively managed.

Whilst most staff knew children well, we found some important information and strategies were not being recorded. This meant staff did not always have enough information to help children develop their full potential. We discussed with the service how they could improve the recording of information to develop personal plans that were more detailed and effective. We will follow this up at our next inspection.

A member of staff had started prior to their Protection of Vulnerable Groups check (the enhanced disclosure required to work with children) being in place. Furthermore, some staff had not yet registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC is the body who regulate the social service workforce) within the set timescales. The manager took swift action to address the SSSC registration following the inspection. We spoke to the manager about the importance of following safer recruitment practices to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children. We signposted the service to the best practice document "Safer Recruitment Through Better Recruitment". (Recommendation 3).

As previously noted, the registered manager was not often present in the service. As we found a number of areas for improvement, the registered manager/provider should consider the roles and responsibilities of the management team. Any registered manager should hold responsibility for the quality of the provision and therefore should be actively involved in improvement work. This is to ensure that there is an effective level of focus to address any concerns and improve outcomes for children. The registered manager/provider should review the tasks that a manager is required to do and ensure that these meet the specification of the role. This would include evaluating experiences for children and ensuring a quality service was being provided at all times. (Recommendation 4).

Since the inspection the provider has taken steps to support the manager in her role. The service has now appointed a food and catering assistant, which should support with the preparing of meals, menu planning and allow more staff to be with the children during meal times. They have also recruited an administrator to support the service. This is a positive step and we will consider the impact of these appointments at the next inspection.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 4

1. To ensure children receive sufficient support and experience positive meals times the service should review how it manages meal times. They should consider the deployment of staff and ensure that there are appropriate levels of staffing to meet children's varying needs.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 6 - Support and development.

2. To ensure children receive healthy meals and develop positive eating habits the service should review the meals provided and any alternatives offered to children. The service should use current best practice guidance to support them to develop their menus and approaches to meal times.

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

- Health and wellbeing.

3. To ensure children are supported by suitable staff, the service must ensure that all of the staff working in the service are recruited in line with safer recruitment practices. This should include obtaining a satisfactory Protection of Vulnerable Groups check and two references prior to a successful candidate starting employment. This should also include ensuring appropriate registration with SSSC is undertaken by all staff and there is a monitoring system in place to regularly review this.

National Care Standard Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 12 - Confidence in staff.

4. The provider should address and review the roles and responsibilities of the management team to ensure that the nursery is effectively managed and children experience positive outcomes. The registered manager should have overall responsibility for managing the nursery and developing the quality of the provision.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16

Standard 14 - Well managed service.

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	
10 Dec 2015	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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