

Chapter One Childcare Shawfair House Day Care of Children

Shawfair House
Campend Farm
Old Dalkeith Road
Dalkeith
EH22 1RS

Telephone: 0131 654 0186

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

10 July 2018

Service provided by:

Chapter One Childcare

Service provider number:

SP2004006695

Service no:

CS2011298919

About the service

Chapter One Childcare Shawfair House is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 56 children at any one time between birth and primary seven school age. The service was registered with the Care Inspectorate in March 2012.

Chapter One Childcare Shawfair House is based in a large two storey house which has been adapted for the purpose of providing full day care to children. The ground floor of the building accommodates babies and children under two years. The first floor accommodates children from two years to not yet attending primary school. The service consists of playrooms, kitchens, toilets and changing areas, parents room, staff room and office space. The service is set within substantial grounds which have been adapted to support children's outdoor play experiences.

We check that services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by the 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. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included."

What people told us

Before the inspection took place we sent 22 Care Standards questionnaires to the service for distribution among families using the service. Ten of these were returned to us before the inspection took place. All of the families who returned questionnaires told us they strongly agreed with the statement:

"Overall I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service." Additional representative comments included the following:

"My child is very happy at nursery. I have been so impressed by the staff, environment and learning opportunities for my child. The nursery is always improving their environment and constantly meeting the needs of the children. This nursery has been such a positive experience for my child so far and we can only thank them for this."

"The nursery is excellent. My child was recently diagnosed with (confidential information about a food intolerance). The nursery have gone out of their way to ensure a suitable diet. The play is varied and responsive with plenty opportunities to explore outdoors. Staff are consistent. My child has learnt a great deal including kindness and good manners from the lovely friendly staff at Chapter One."

"There appears to have been an increase in staff moving to other nurseries in Chapter One for promotions etc. This may be coincidental however I am not sure it has had a positive impact on Shawfair. I feel a review of the merging of the two-three and the pre school room would be appropriate with feedback from parents. Excellent use of outdoor space."

"An excellent nursery! My child loves it and so do we."

"Shawfair is a fantastic nursery. They provide a caring, kind, stimulating environment for all of the children. Both of our children have thrived at nursery and we couldn't ask for a better place or people to care for our children

during the times we are at work. Changes to the indoor environment in the pre school have been hugely beneficial and have allowed a greater range of activities for the children to do."

"Staff have gone above and beyond to make sure my child feels confident, settled and happy at nursery. They show a genuine interest in my child's development and wellbeing. I'm so happy we chose Shawfair House it has been a completely positive experience and I know my child will continue to thrive there."

"I am very confident in the skills and abilities of staff. They are always caring and friendly and listen to what parents say. My child learns lots and has fun."

"Staff were so completely supportive when we started earlier this year. They didn't only have to navigate a new child and their needs but my own anxieties about leaving them. I have never had any doubts that the care my child receives is good and consistent. Two months in and she no longer cries but asks to go to them."

During the inspection visits, children were happy to share their views and tell us what they enjoyed about nursery. Some of their comments included:

"Look at me I'm strong, I can climb a tree."

"I'm going to make this box into robot arms."

"I'll be going to big school soon, I'm ready."

"We're fixing this car (referring to car built from loose parts in the garden) we're good at fixing we're car fixers."

Self assessment

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

Children received consistent nurturing interactions from staff who had a very good understanding of their needs and interests. This helped to ensure they felt secure, confident and able to take advantage of the opportunities to play and learn provided by the nursery environment.

Effective communication between home and nursery helped to ensure that staff had up-to-date information on children's interests and experiences outside nursery. They used this along with their own observations to inform responsive planning to empower children and ensure they saw their individual interests reflected in their nursery experience.

Children's essential information was reviewed at least once every six months which helped ensure it remained relevant to their care and support needs. Staff were confident in using the referral system to ensure that children with additional needs received appropriate support. They attended planning meetings with parents and professionals. Where necessary staff implemented individual programmes of action which helped to ensure children thrived in the nursery environment.

Staff understood the importance of building children's confidence and independence. They worked hard to ensure that playrooms were interesting and inviting places for children to play. Resources were easily accessible allowing children to make their own decisions about how and where to play. Staff stepped into children's play when invited and when they could see that their intervention would add value to the experience. A child ask for help to build an office to do their 'very important work'. The impact of staff's respectful and immediate support was apparent on the child's face as they set about their 'work' with a sense of purpose and achievement.

A parent told us "The outdoor nature area is a huge asset it is wonderful to bring home tired muddy children who have played outside whatever the weather." We saw that children benefited from daily access to outdoor play spaces equipped with abundant natural materials and loose parts. These provided children with opportunities for self directed, imaginative and risky play which they had control over. Children experimented with the properties of materials sometimes working together negotiating how best build , for example, dens, hammocks and obstacle courses. Children learnt about the capacity of their bodies developing their skills through climbing, jumping and moving materials around to meet their needs. Others chose quieter more reflective pursuits, reading, chatting together, planting and learning about the natural world. The common factor was children's ability to experience freedom of choice which built confidence and self esteem.

What the service could do better

We asked the manager to continue developing the existing opportunities for younger children to be independent at meal times. The manager shared their thoughts on how this could be achieved.

We discussed how free flow access to the garden might be achieved for children using the ground floor of the building. The manager agreed to take this forward as an area for development. This will further enhance the opportunities to make independent choices.

We asked the manager to consider how they could use the skills of experienced staff to support less experience staff in developing a more consistent approach to identifying and taking forward next steps in children's development.

The children's toilets on the first floor of the building needed to be refreshed. The manager agreed with this and told us of their plans to take this forward.

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
10 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
28 Jul 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership 3 - Adequate
30 Sep 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 6 - Excellent Staffing 6 - Excellent Management and leadership 6 - Excellent
23 Oct 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good

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