

Beechwood House Nursery (Kilmarnock) Day Care of Children

Barbados House
34 Dundonald Road
Kilmarnock
KA1 1RX

Telephone: 01563 573555

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

14 June 2018

Service provided by:

Childcare (Scotland) Ltd

Service provider number:

SP2003000726

Service no:

CS2003003589

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 was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

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.

Beechwood House Nursery (Kilmarnock) operates from a large converted town house within walking distance of the town centre of Kilmarnock in East Ayrshire. The service is one of a group of nurseries run by Childcare (Scotland) Ltd and provides both sessional and full daycare places all year round seven days a week from 6.30am to 10pm. Children from 0 – 12 years can be accommodated in maximum numbers as follows:

30 children aged 0 to 2 years
30 children aged 2 to 3 years
55 children aged 3 to 12 years
OR
28 children aged 0 to 2 years
22 children aged 2 to 3 years
70 children aged 3 to 12 years

The service works in partnership with East Ayrshire Council to deliver government funded early learning and childcare. A manager is responsible for the day to day running of the service.

At the time of this inspection 120 children were registered to use the service.

Childcare (Scotland) Ltd aims to:

- "educate the whole child, taking into account the needs and preferences of the individual child"
- "provide an attractive and stimulating atmosphere in which the children can play safely"
- "encourage children to learn through exploration and investigation by providing interesting and challenging learning opportunities"
- "establish positive links with parents, primary schools and external agencies in order to provide the highest standard of care"
- "provide a working environment in which every child and staff member is valued, appreciated and where employees are able to realise their full potential irrespective of their gender, race or disability"

What people told us

Two parents shared their views of the service with us during our visits. Both were happy with the service provided.

Fourteen parents/carers completed our Care Standards questionnaires. Thirteen were happy with the quality of care their children received and one disagreed.

Comments made included:

"I am happy with the service in general"

"I am pleased to see the recent menu changes provide greater variety of food"

"You can see how much he (child) loves and trusts the staff and it's very comforting to me"

"The staff provide an excellent environment that has allowed my child to thrive whilst there"

"Staff are friendly, efficient and effective. Can't find fault with anything"

"I have no complaints at all"

Some issues raised were confidentially brought to management's attention including improving communication regarding staff changes, activities and children's learning/development. We were informed that information regarding the new permanent manager had been shared with all service users.

Some children were happy to talk to us and share their experiences in the nursery. They were confident and comfortable in their surroundings and enjoyed positive relationships with each other and the staff caring for them.

Self assessment

The service had 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 the provision within the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

The children were happy settled and engaged in their play and learning. Older children enjoyed exploring print and writing their own names. Additional resources, including natural materials, enabled the children to choose from a wider range promoting their independence.

Healthy lifestyles were promoted. Physical play opportunities took place for all ages of children outdoors in their garden areas and older children also enjoyed dance classes in the fresh air. Snack and lunch times were relaxed, sociable and unhurried occasions and included 'home cooked' food.

Independence was promoted at these times with the older children self-selecting and younger ones given encouragement to feed themselves, with support provided by staff where required.

In the main children's personal learning journey folders were kept up-to-date and included information on their progress and next steps in learning and development. Personal plans were regularly reviewed and support plans developed, where required, for individual children.

Staff were kind, caring and knowledgeable about the children in their care. Information gathered and observations made enabled them to meet individual needs appropriately. Children of all ages were comfortable in approaching staff, with younger children given cuddles and reassurance to help support them with settling in to their environment.

Staff communicated well with each other, shared tasks and enjoyed positive relationships. A good mix of permanent staff and trainees in playrooms provided continuity for the children and supported the sharing of skills, experience and new ideas.

Staff had undertaken some training to update their knowledge and understanding of good practice in providing positive outcomes for the children and their families. Those we spoke with were able to discuss the positive impact their learning had on their practice. Further training sessions including child protection and first aid were planned. Regular whole staff team and room meetings took place giving staff the opportunity to come together and share information.

What the service could do better

We shared some areas with the new manager and support manager in which the service could make further improvements. These included:

- Ensuring symptoms are recorded on children's medication forms to ensure staff are aware of when to administer any medication
- Providing more choice for children, in particular in the 2-3 year age range
- Providing more opportunity for children under 2 years of age to explore and investigate their surroundings and resources
- Developing individual risk assessments for children as required
- Ensuring younger children's personal learning journey folders are kept up-to-date and include additional photographic evidence
- Providing opportunities for staff to access training on schemas to support raising their awareness and understanding of their importance in younger children's development
- Providing opportunities for staff to access training on evaluative writing to assist them in reflecting on impact and outcomes
- Continuing to progress with staff appraisals, providing a very good opportunity for the new manager to familiarise herself with her staff team
- Being aware of infection control good practice with regards to displays within children's changing areas
- Progressing with self evaluation processes

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Complaints

Please see Care Inspectorate website (www.careinspectorate.com) for details of complaints about the service which have been upheld.

Inspection and grading history

| Date | Type | Gradings | |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 5 Jul 2016 | Unannounced | Care and support | 4 - Good |
| | | Environment | 4 - Good |
| | | Staffing | 4 - Good |
| | | Management and leadership | 4 - Good |
| 23 Apr 2015 | Unannounced | Care and support | 3 - Adequate |
| | | Environment | 2 - Weak |
| | | Staffing | 4 - Good |
| | | Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate |
| 22 May 2013 | Unannounced | Care and support | 5 - Very good |
| | | Environment | 4 - Good |
| | | Staffing | 5 - Very good |
| | | Management and leadership | 4 - Good |
| 23 Oct 2008 | Unannounced | Care and support | 5 - Very good |
| | | Environment | 5 - Very good |
| | | Staffing | 4 - Good |
| | | Management and leadership | 5 - Very good |

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