

Bright Sparks Day Care of Children

58 Saughton Crescent
Corstorphine
Edinburgh
EH12 5SP

Telephone: 0131 313 1280

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
20 September 2018

Service provided by:
Edinburgh Childcare Limited

Service provider number:
SP2004004489

Service no:
CS2004056921

About the service

Bright Sparks Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 48 children up to the age of Primary School entry of whom a maximum of 18 will be under 2 years. Bright Sparks nursery is a two storey detached residential building which has been adapted for the purpose of providing full day care to children. The ground floor accommodates the Toddlers and Pre-schoolers and the first floor caters for the younger children. The separate gardens were used for the appropriate age group.

The vision is to 'provide a stimulating, safe, nurturing environment to ensure happy children, parents and staff'.

The values and aims state:

'At Bright Sparks nursery we aim to:

- demonstrate self-improvement through the regular use of CPD training both in-house and outwith the setting, regular evaluations carried out on practice and environment.
- meet individual needs of all learners.
- Build positive and caring relationships with all children and families within the setting.
- Provide positive role models.
- Promote healthy living through exercise and healthy eating'.

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. 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.

What people told us

We saw that children were happy and contented in the care of key staff. Most children settled quickly and happily to play in the nursery and were comfortable talking to staff. We talked to older children about their experiences and they told us:

'I like reading books'.

'The snacks are yummy'.

'We go to the woods, its fun'.

In preparation for this inspection, we sent 35 care standard questionnaires for parents to complete. We received 12 completed questionnaires with all respondents telling us that overall they were happy with the quality of care their child received at the service. Comments included:

'We could not be happier with Bright Sparks. The learning our son tells us about far exceeds what we expected at this level, yet is never forced. An example from today 'dirty things in the water are called pollutants'. Probably more important than the impressive learning outcomes, is the real affection and care the staff display towards our children. There is as wonderful atmosphere. We really value the amount of time the children spend outside – if the weather is good (and sometimes when it's not) they are experiencing a great outdoors'.

'The staff team have engaged in developing the outdoor area which my child now really enjoys. The loose parts have been a great addition to the outdoors. There is a really commitment to engaging with the CEC cluster nurseries and develop skills and practice'.

'Lately there has been a lot of staff changes and I feel that I didn't get the handover at the end of the day from the newer staff. Longstanding members of staff are fabulous and my son has a great relationship with them'.

'Two of my children have had the opportunity to attend this nursery and the service that the staff and nursery provide is excellent. The staff are very friendly and provide many opportunities for my child to grow and develop. They are very engaged with the curriculum for excellence and provide ample updates and pictures on my child's learning journal'.

'The standard of feedback on my children's development and behaviour (both daily and in the twice yearly parent's night) is exceptional. Very detailed, really well thought out and they obviously know each child well'.

'We are very happy with the care provided to our toddler (who is 20 months old) who actively looks forward to going to nursery twice a week'.

'Staff are always friendly and very caring towards my little boy. He comes home happy and always smiling. He is excited when he sees the main door and is happy to go to all the staff. Learning journals are always up to date and I always get a detailed feedback and chat at the end of the day. Myself and my son are more than happy with the nursery as a whole and staff all seem confident. I know I am able to discuss any issues in private and have management's support'.

Self assessment

The service has not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their Standards, Quality Improvement plan and agreed with how the service planned to develop and improve.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	3 - Adequate
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children were happy, engaged and relaxed in their play. Children and families were welcomed warmly into the service making them feel valued and included. There was a sense of warmth within the nursery because staff engaged with children in a kind and nurturing manner. Play was being extended and children were able to lead their own experiences.

The nursery had worked hard to develop their use of flexible resources in all playrooms and we could see this was having a positive impact on outcomes for children. As a result, children were able to explore a wide variety of natural open-ended resources that promoted their natural curiosity and enquiry skills.

The outdoor environment supported active play and children made very good use of a range of equipment to promote their physical development. The focus on outdoor learning meant that children had access to activities and experiences that offered endless possibilities through investigation of natural materials as well as loose

parts play. Further afield, children participated in activities such as den building, tree climbing and fire pit building. This meant that children were given a chance to engage freely in adventurous play and therefore learn to assess their own skills.

Through planning and consultation there were opportunities for children to record and reflect on their own learning. Children were keen to share their learning and were proud of their achievements. Progress and achievements were celebrated in a number of ways including through online learning journals, in floorbooks and through positive praise from staff.

Staff knew children well, which helped them to feel included and nurtured. Settling in and transition between playrooms was taken at the individual child's pace. This approach allowed them to develop their confidence and develop a sense of security with staff. Following parents requests, some children took a nap in their buggy. We have asked the service to work with parents to gain a shared understanding of the potential risks and the need for children to experience a comfortable and natural sleep.

Newly recruited staff told us they had taken part in an induction into their roles and responsibilities as part of the staff team. They found this had been useful in helping them to understand and carry out the responsibilities of their role. Staff played a key role in writing the Standards and Quality Improvement plan. This gave everyone a part to play in the development of the nursery which encouraged teamwork and motivation. Furthermore staff meetings meant that key information was shared with staff and important conversations took place. There were systems in place for monitoring the service which included staff practice and staff told us that they felt supported by the management team. We spoke about the best practice documents that could be used to measure and assess the quality of staff work. This would help towards a more consistent approach and clear expectations of quality practice.

What the service could do better

The service policy and practice in relation to safer recruitment were not meeting current best practice. This meant there was potential for children's safety to be compromised. See requirement one.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 1

1. In order to ensure children's safety the provider must review their recruitment policy and procedures to ensure all staff are recruited safely by the time in which they next employ a member of staff. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state "I am confident that people who support and care for me have been appropriately and safely recruited" (HSC 4.24) and in order to comply with Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210 regulation 9(1)(a) (Fitness of employees) Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011.

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	
7 Sep 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
16 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
4 Oct 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
5 Nov 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
22 Jul 2008	Unannounced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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