

Stableroom Playgroup Day Care of Children

Colinton Parish Church
Dell Road
Edinburgh
EH13 0JR

Telephone: 0131 477 9494

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

7 November 2018

Service provided by:

Stableroom Playgroup Committee

Service provider number:

SP2003002832

Service no:

CS2003011863

About the service

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

Stableroom Playgroup is based on the lower ground floor of Colinton Parish Church's community hall which is situated in the Colinton area of Edinburgh. The accommodation consists of two playrooms, use of the community group kitchen and toilet facilities with nappy changing facilities. The playgroup also has access to the Manse garden for outdoor play.

The playgroup is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 16 children aged over 2 years to those not yet attending primary school. The service may provide a care service to a maximum of 24 children aged over 2 years to those not yet attending primary school on a maximum of 10 times per year. The playgroup operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings during term time. During the summer term the service can also operate on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

The playgroup is run by a committee which is made up of parents whose children attend the playgroup. The play leader, who is the named manager of the service, has responsibility for the day-to-day running of the playgroup.

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

We check 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

The children were busy, having fun and appeared to be happy and settled. They were engaged purposefully in a range of stimulating play experiences of their choice. They could easily approach the staff for things they wanted and for support.

We sent 10 Care Inspectorate care standards questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents. We received six completed questionnaires before the inspection took place. Parents strongly agreed or agreed that they were happy with the quality of care their child received in the playgroup. Some parents and carers wrote comments which we discussed with manager whilst ensuring their anonymity. Representative comments included:

'My daughter loves the Stableroom. It's a warm and nurturing environment and has been so valuable in her early year's development.'

'Really lovely staff and facility! We have been so very pleased with our son's experience the past 1.5 years. Well done!'

'The staff make Stableroom a perfect environment for young children to learn and play.'

'I strongly feel that the staff at Stableroom are second to none. They care, they take time, they make sure I am

up to date and they are great fun. My son absolutely loves them and he loves the playgroup as a whole. Fantastic!

'Very happy with the quality of service provided for the children. It is a very positive and inclusive environment for the children. My son loves to come home and talk about the fun he has had at the Stableroom. I feel this is a very important service at the heart of Colinton Village.'

'Stableroom Playgroup is a wonderful little place. My son loves going. He has learned so much there, it is such a lovely environment for playing and learning. The staff are great, truly committed to the children.'

'Our son has only been in the playgroup for a (length of time). We find the staff friendly and approachable. Our son enjoys playgroup and already talks with fondness about the staff.'

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 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 playgroup provided a very warm and nurturing environment where children were able to form friendships and have fun. Children and parents were warmly welcomed by staff into the playgroup where a nurturing environment supported them to feel included. There were a number of instances of staff giving cuddles and comfort to children especially those who were finding it more difficult to settle. A cosy area was available for those children who wanted some quiet time.

Children appeared happy, engaged and supported by staff who were able to demonstrate that they knew them well. Staff listened to the children and their views which meant that children felt respected. The learning environment was positive and children were engaged in a variety of stimulating play experiences with resources that promoted interest, creativity and problem solving.

Children's health and wellbeing was promoted by staff through exercise, healthy eating and personal care. Children were aware of the daily routines which included snack time and hand washing. Staff supported children through encouragement and praise. Staff confidently discussed their responsibilities in the event of any concerns about children and the action they would take to ensure children's wellbeing.

Planning was responsive to children's interests and needs and child led approaches allowed children to direct their own learning. Staff supported children's choices and extended their learning by using quality questioning which allowed children to think about their answer. We observed good interactions between staff and children

with staff valuing children's interests and comments. This meant that children were encouraged to have a positive view of themselves and their achievements.

Staff were committed to their professional development and learning and were able to demonstrate their knowledge of current best practice guidance. Staff had opportunities to access training offered by the City of Edinburgh Council. This included mandatory training and courses such as moving to learn and leading the strategy. Training needs were identified as part of the annual appraisal process. Staff were given leadership roles and took the lead on initiatives such as the development of area within the playroom and activities for the older children attending the playgroup.

An induction programme was in place for all new employees which gave them an over view of the playgroup and what they were expected to do within their role. Child Protection was discussed as part of the process. Policies and procedures were revisited to ensure staff had an understanding of them and their roles and responsibilities.

What the service could do better

Each child has a personal learning plan (PLP) in which staff could record information their learning and development through the use of observations. We found that the PLPs contained very few observations and no next steps for children's learning and development. This was discussed with the manager who informed us that there had been changes in managers, one only staying in post for a few weeks and this had meant the PLPs were not up to date. This was a priority for the staff team and they were in the process of ensuring this was rectified and the information held on each child was recorded in their PLP. We will follow this up at the next inspection.

Staff were registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) for the role they held within the playgroup. They were aware of the SSSC's Codes of Practice which describe the standards of conduct and practice within which all staff must work. However, at inspection we found that a member of staff had not applied to be on the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) register within the set time limit. Her application was being processed by the SSSC and her registration was completed before the inspection process was completed. We discussed this with the manager and the chairperson of the parents committee. They informed us that they were not aware of the time limit and have assured us that this will not happen in the future.

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
17 Nov 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
13 Feb 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
14 Jan 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
19 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
3 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed
30 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

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