

Eastern Primary Schools Out Day Care of Children

Eastern Primary School
Camperdown Street
Broughty Ferry
Dundee
DD5 3AE

Telephone: 07743134689

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

27 June 2019

Service provided by:

Eastern Primary Schools Out Scottish
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Service provider number:

SP2014012302

Service no:

CS2014325907

About the service

Eastern Primary Schools Out is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 68 children of primary school age.

During term time, the service may care for children who attend morning sessions at Eastern Primary School Nursery prior to the nursery session starting.

The service operates from Eastern Primary School in Broughty Ferry near Dundee. The club has use of the school dining hall, a dedicated room downstairs and access to the school playgrounds.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate in September 2014.

What people told us

During the inspection visits children appeared happy and settled. They had fun taking part in a range of activities indoors and outdoors. Some of the children talked with us, telling us about their experiences at the service and shared their thoughts and suggestions on service development.

Their comments included:

"I play with my friends."

"I like going outside."

"I absolutely love art."

"What is the future."

"We do get to say what we want to play with."

"I come here during the holidays too. I like it."

We sent care standards questionnaires (CSQs) to the service to distribute to parents. We received 18 completed questionnaires before the inspection was carried out. Fifteen parents 'strongly agreed' and two parents 'agreed' they were happy with the care their child received at the service. We also spoke with two parents during the inspection, who spoke very highly of the staff and the service provided. They told us their children enjoyed attending, their individual needs were considered and met on a daily basis and that staff were friendly, approachable and 'went above and beyond'.

Additional comments included:

"The staff continually engage with children at the after school provision. My child is always excited to attend the after school club and has made friends with the older years groups too. I especially enjoy the fun group games they play as a group with all engaging and children and staff having lots of fun!!"

"Fantastic after school and holiday childcare. My daughter loves going there and the range of activities planned is brilliant. I love the planner when holiday club is on, great to know what is planned and she gets excited by knowing what she will be doing that day. All staff are welcoming, friendly and work hard to provide a fabulous service. I couldn't ask for anything better!"

"We are very happy with the childcare provision at the Schools Out Breakfast and After School Clubs at Eastern Primary School. The staff are extremely caring and patient with our son and all children. They treat all children as individuals and are very giving with their time at handover periods."

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	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We observed the children to be settled and comfortable within the out of school environment. They readily engaged with a range of activities indoors and outside after arrival, playing alone, as they wanted and with friends.

There were good relationships between staff and children. Staff knew children well and worked in partnership with parents to support and meet children's individual needs. All staff were seen to be relaxed around the children and spoke to them with respect.

Information was gathered about all the children, in the form of registration information, 'all about me' forms and where needed support plans. This information was clear and reviewed regularly as required through legislation, helping staff support the safety, health and wellbeing of the children.

The children we spoke with told us they were happy attending the club. They talked positively about staff and their experiences. One of the older children offered their suggestions to help improve the service and experiences for children, for example, challenging board games for the older children and specified times where the squash room was available to the older children only. We discussed these suggestions with the manager at feedback and suggested methods that could be introduced for children to share their ideas and suggestions.

Developing consultation methods would provide more opportunities for children to support planning and club development.

We found the indoor activities available varied and encouraged children's imagination and creativity. Staff should continue to work with children to plan and provide interesting programmes, considering how they offer greater challenge and opportunities to develop new skills.

Snacks provided were healthy and varied. Children independently served themselves and were assisted by the 'snack helpers'. We discussed developing further opportunities for children's independence during snack, such as, children helping prepare snack and washing their dishes when finished. Staff should ensure dishes and cutlery were thoroughly washed at the end of the session. We observed good handwashing undertaken by the children, with staff reminding when required.

We saw that medication systems had been reviewed since the last inspection as required. They had been updated and now followed best practice guidance.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children were cared for within the school dining hall, with a small designated room downstairs (squash) and access to the school playground. The premises appeared bright, well maintained and clean. The club environment was safe, well ventilated with direct access to the outdoors from the hall. This provided a healthy and hygienic environment for the children attending the service.

Resources were stored in moveable units which were tidied away and stored after each session. As discussed previously, consideration should be given to new resources, supporting children's needs and interests. The club was restricted with wall space for displays as it was school premises but there was the designated room (squash), which doubled as the club office, where wall space was available. A wall display showed children's thoughts and ideas in the topic of 'respect'. The manager discussed plans for further use of the wall space.

There was ample space in the dining hall that provided several activities to be provided for the children to play with. Although there were two sofas downstairs there was no comfortable area for children to relax upstairs. For example, we observed a child sit reading a book at a table for twenty minutes. As this was after school, it would be better for the child to be more relaxed and comfortable during this activity. We discussed this with management, who talked about encouraging children to be responsible and respectful of soft furnishings when available in the dining hall.

Risk assessments were in place for indoors and outside to ensure all risks to children and staff were identified and addressed. Children moving between rooms and outdoors were monitored through a card system and supervision. This encouraged children's independence whilst helping staff keep account of where children were.

Children were given the opportunity to be active and access fresh air everyday in the school playground. Loose parts play had been introduced encouraging children's imagination and creativity. We observed a group of children use various loose parts to make the 'Titanic', with one child in particular planning the creation and having the other children help him as they built. Staff should continue to develop loose parts and also develop their confidence in supporting children and risky play.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

We found staff to be friendly and approachable. They had established good relationships with children and their families. The team worked well together sharing responsibilities and tasks. The management team followed safe recruitment procedures when employing new staff, ensuring all the necessary checks had been undertaken before staff took up post.

Staff were appropriately registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) as required and held relevant qualifications. Staff had undertaken core training to refresh their knowledge and practice in areas, such as, first aid, child protection and food hygiene. Training opportunities were accessed through a variety of methods. The manager discussed plans for further professional development to support enhanced knowledge, skills, practice and positive outcomes for children. Evaluating learning and its impact on practice was at an early stage with the staff team. A floorbook approach to evaluating learning had been introduced as a whole team exercise to support the development of reflection and assessment as individual staff members.

We heard good interactions between staff and children, most staff had a good rapport with children. We discussed with management staff building their confidence in their roles and responsiveness to children. Staff should continue to develop their skills in extending play and also allowing children to extend their own play when appropriate.

The manager carried out regular supervisions and appraisals, where staff strengths, weaknesses and training needs were identified and discussed. We saw that staff meetings were taking place with club business discussed and practice and development discussions were had from time to time. We suggested that practice and professional development discussions become a regular agenda item to support continued staff progression in knowledge, skills and practice.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We found the manager to be open and friendly. She worked alongside colleagues and had an overview of how the service was running and how children were being cared for and supported while attending the service. We were told that the club and staff were well supported by the management committee.

An Improvement Plan was in place supporting the continued development of the service. The manager discussed service development and the recommendations that had been addressed from the last inspection.

The management team undertook informal and formal monitoring of the service and staff practice. We discussed with the manager the continued development and recording of monitoring and its influence on outcomes for children.

The quality assurance systems at the service have continued to develop since the last inspection. We discussed streamlining the process to ensure evaluation was effective and efficient. Parents and children were regularly consulted on the provision and their suggestions taken on board where appropriate. As previously discussed, the staff team should continue to develop methods for gathering and recording children's views and evaluations of the provision.

Policies and procedures were reviewed regularly and updated as needed to ensure they remained relevant to the service and continued to follow best practice guidance. Staff were made aware of any changes to inform their knowledge and practice.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

Requirement 1

To protect the health and wellbeing of all children, the service must undertake a review of their policy and practice in the administration of medication by 1 September 2018.

The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (Scottish Statutory Instrument 2011/210) Regulation 4(1) (a) A provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of service users.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "any treatment or intervention that I experience is safe and effective." (HSCS 1.24).

This requirement was made on 7 August 2018.

Action taken on previous requirement

Policy and practice had been reviewed and updated, now following best practice guidelines.

Met - within timescales

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

It is recommended that the service develop a system to record any identified needs, and show how these will be met in the service. This should be done by creating individual support plans.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "My personal plan is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices" (HSCS 1.15).

This recommendation was made on 7 August 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Support plans were now in place for children, identifying needs and health and wellbeing support as required.

Recommendation 2

It is recommended that the service develop further their positive and restorative strategies in behaviour management to support the children in a sensitive and caring manner so that they learn to regulate their own behaviour.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "I am enabled to resolve conflict, agree rules and build positive relationships with other people as much as I can" (HSCS 2.15).

This recommendation was made on 7 August 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Behaviour management had been discussed and developed. Visual strategies and tools were being used, with the intention of a new strategy/tool being implemented in the Autumn term. Further training was also planned for the staff team.

Recommendation 3

Staff should be supported to continue to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence through a variety of professional development opportunities to aid them in their practice and providing positive outcomes for children.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice" (HSCS 4.11).

This recommendation was made on 7 August 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Staff had undertaken core training and a team training plan was in place where further professional development had been identified and will be accessed by individual staff members and the whole team in some instances.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
24 Jul 2018	Unannounced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
26 Aug 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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