Rosewell After School Club
Day Care of Children

Rosewell Pavillion
Rosewell Park
Rosewell
EH24 9DN

Telephone: 0131 448 0103

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 12 September 2017

Service provided by:
LASC Childcare Services Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2003003106

Care service number:
CS2013322032
About the service

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate 18 February 2014.

Roswell After School Club provides a care service to maximum of 40 children at any one time, aged from 3 to 16 years, of whom no more than 8 will be between 3 years and 4 years.

The service operates between the hours of 2.30 pm and 6.00 pm Monday to Thursday and 12 noon and 6.00 pm on a Friday (term time only).

The service operate a breakfast club from Roswell Primary School, 85 Carnethie Street, Roswell, EH24 9AL between the hours of 7.00 am and 9.00 am Monday to Friday (term time only).

The service operates from Rosewell Pavilion. They have use of the main hall, kitchen, toilets and a very large outdoor area which consists of grassland, wooded areas and play park.

We carried out an unannounced inspection on 11 September 2017 with a further visit on 12 September 2017 where we completed our inspection and gave feedback to the manager. At the inspection we spoke with the peripatetic manager, three staff, 15 children and five parents. We observed staff practice, the environment and any documentation relevant to the inspection. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors.

We carried out a ‘themed’ inspection. This targeted approach means that we looked at identified aspects of the service focusing on children’s experiences.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC), Scotland’s national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

Over the two days we visited the service we spoke to many of the children who attended the club. Children were happy and keen to tell us about the things they did at the club and examples of these included:

“I like going to the park and doing the crafts. Brenda is good at this as she is kind of the crafty baking one and Sammy is the funny, chatty one.”

“Can I just let you know that they put signs up if you have a nut allergy. I feel safe.”

“We like going to the park to the park but we don’t get to do it very often well sometimes but not a lot.”

“I feel safe when I come here.”

Children were keen to involve us in their play and conversation. They wanted to know who we were and why we were there and they played an important part of the inspection process. They told us about the ‘buddy’ system and how well it worked for them. We saw this is working well as a young child was being supported by an older child.
We observed some positive interactions between the staff and children. One child thanked a staff member for keeping their picture out from last week because they hadn’t finished it. Staff clearly respected children’s work and achievements as we also saw a puzzle which had been left out for a child to complete the next time they attended.

We issued 20 care standard questionnaires to the service to give to parents. At the time we wrote this report seven questionnaires had been returned. Parents strongly agree or agreed that they were happy with the quality of care their child received in the service. Comments from parents included:

“Staff take a genuine interest in the children and their lives. They are very caring and responsive to individual requests for activities.”

“Staff go above and beyond in volunteering their time and committing fully to the whole school community e.g. summer holiday events in Rosewell.”

“The staff do an excellent job and are well-loved and respected by the children.”

“I am confident my child is in safe hands with them.”

“My concern is the building. Great location and all facilities it requires but needs some serious upgrading and investment.”

“The interaction and trust that the staff have with our child is of the utmost importance and we are grateful that they feel safe and have bonded well with ASC team.”

Parents we spoke with directly told us they were happy with the service and sometimes their child “did not want to go home”. Parents were grateful for having such a service in their community.

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 of the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of care and support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of environment</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of staffing</td>
<td>not assessed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of management and leadership</td>
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What the service does well

The experienced and enthusiastic staff team were focused on creating a fun, happy and stimulating child led experience for the children. We found staff to have genuine regard for the children in their care and relationships between staff and children were respectful and warm.
Staff supported and encouraged individual children’s interests and needs. They described meeting these needs as far as possible and trusting children to take the lead in their play. A recent successful example of child-led activity was the promotion of a gardening club where the whole community had been involved.

Children and staff spoke positively about the ‘buddy’ system which enabled new children to become more confident within the setting. Staff knew the children well and the information they kept for each child was relevant and up to date.

It was good to see that children were given free flow access to the large and stimulating outdoor area. Indoor and outdoor staff managed this by communicating to each other with walkie-talkies to ensure children’s wishes were met and their play was not unnecessarily interrupted.

Staff organised snack and set out a selection of resources for the children before collecting them from local primary schools and nursery. Staff were keen to support all children in the creation of the space in which they played and children were confident in approaching staff if the resource they wanted to play with was not already out.

Staff intervened with children’s play only to enable them to extend their play and encourage them to balance any risk with the benefits of their wellbeing and keeping themselves safe. Children understood that they must make staff aware that they were leaving the park area when they wanted to. This supported children to take responsibility for their safety whilst still ensuring they had free choice to play where they wanted.

What the service could do better

Although we found the variety and quantity of food offered to children was good the way snack time was conducted did not offer children a quality experience. We saw most children who choose to have snack stood to eat it. Snack had mostly been pre-prepared by staff although children were given opportunities to spread and make up their own sandwiches on one of the days we visited. When asked why they did not sit down a child told us “we can sit down if we want to but we have to get a chair down from the pile of chairs over there.”

(see recommendation 1)

Staff organised circle time to encourage children to make their ideas and suggestions known to staff about the play they wanted. However we did note that the younger children were not confident enough to make themselves heard. We spoke to staff and they recognised this and were going to consider other ways of doing this.

We saw various daily check lists and weekly risk assessments about play and good practice was shown by allowing children to help with the daily outdoor checklist. However there was no risk assessment for the service as a whole. This should include how staffing would be managed in all areas to ensure the safety of children at all times. Children should be involved in this process, with their ideas and any concerns taken into account. They should revisit and include the boundaries and club rules ensuring respect and dignity for others are taken into account.

(see recommendation 2)

We saw children playing well together and on their own but in order to ensure the club meets the Playwork Principles. For example, principle 6. ‘The playworker’s response to children and young people playing is based on a sound, up to date knowledge of the play process and reflective practice’. They need to write a Play Policy which would encompass all principles.

(see recommendation 3)
Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 3

1. In order to ensure a better experience for children at snack times we recommend they review their procedures for this time.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 5 - quality of experience

2. In order to ensure children and staff are aware of how best to keep themselves safe and minimise the risk of hazards a full risk assessment should be written for the service.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 2 - a safe environment

3. In order to ensure children are support for play the service should write a Play Policy which reflects the ethos and aims of the service and links in with other service policies.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 5 - quality of experience.

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

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<th>Type</th>
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