

# Cults Out of School Care Day Care of Children

Cults Primary School  
Earlswell Road  
Aberdeen  
AB15 9RG

Telephone: 01224 868858

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
23 August 2019

**Service provided by:**  
Aberdeen City Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003000349

**Service no:**  
CS2003001774

## About the service

Cults Out of School Care has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 1 April 2011. It is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 48 primary school aged children in the breakfast club and a maximum of 64 primary school aged children after school, on in-service days and school holidays.

The care service will operate from 07:30 to 9:00 and 14:30 to 18:00 during term time and 08:00 to 18:00 on in-service days and school holidays. During the operating times the service will have sole use of the dining room, conference room, coffee lounge, sports hall, tartan unit, the outside play area and the toilets facilities.

The aims of the service included:

- 'To provide children with a safe, happy, caring and stimulating environment in which to develop their individual skills and talents.
- To deliver learning opportunities for children and parents to come together, enhancing parenting skills and when appropriate gain accreditation to enhance opportunities for accessing employment.
- To encourage social inclusion by providing childcare opportunities for the most vulnerable families in the community.
- To promote the inclusion of children with additional support needs to mainstream services through the creation of quality, affordable and accessible childcare opportunities.
- To create quality services that will meet children's social, physical, intellectual, creative, cultural and emotional development needs, including creative play opportunities and recreation'.

The Care Inspectorate 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 services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included.

## What people told us

There were 47 children present during the inspection, all of primary school age. We observed the children and saw that they were well settled in the service. We talked to the children about their experiences and they told us:

- 'I like the baking; we do that a lot, but different things which we can take home'.
- 'It's good fun, I've made lots of friends'.
- 'Breakfast is good, I like the toast. Sometimes very busy but you don't have to rush'.
- 'We like when we can take things apart, like the TV'.
- 'We enjoyed the gymnastics and netball coaching'.
- 'It would be nice to have a comfy sofa but it would take up too much space'.

Three parents returned completed questionnaires to us before the inspection. We also spoke to parents as they collected their children. They indicated that they were happy with quality of the care provided. Comments included:

- 'Staff are friendly and approachable'.
- 'There is information available so I knew what my child would be doing'.
- 'We had to wait almost a year for a space but my child has settled really well, staff have taken time to talk to

me and him to help this'.

- 'The outdoor space is great, plenty of space indoors as well'.
- 'My child enjoys coming here, it allows us more flexibility for work'.

## 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 processes. 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	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

## What the service does well

Children settled quickly and confidently into the club, supported by the relaxed and informal atmosphere. Drop off and pick up times for school were well-managed and unhurried, supporting children to feel safe and secure. Staff welcomed children by name when collecting them from school. They knew children well, asking how they were settling at school or how certain activities were going, supporting the children to feel valued and cared for.

The core activities offered were very good and responded to children's interests and preferences. Children were engaged in their activities throughout the session. Staff interactions supported children to develop their confidence and self-esteem. They were led by children and allowed staff to support learning by encouraging children to problem solve, investigate and explore within their play.

Staff encouraged children to participate in the planning and evaluation of activities offered in a variety of ways including evaluation forms, mind maps and discussions. This encouraged children to feel included and listened to. The use of different rooms and spaces as well as the outdoor area supported children's choice and ability to form positive relationships and follow their own interests.

Personal plans were in place for each child. These were reviewed with parents and updated every six months, supporting the safety and wellbeing of children. Where individual needs had been identified, details were recorded supporting staff to use agreed strategies to support children's health and wellbeing.

Although busy, breakfast and snack times were well-managed and unhurried. Healthy options were offered, in line with national guidance. However, children were not involved in the preparation of food, serving themselves from dishes prepared by staff. Management agreed to look at identifying times when children could be involved more in the preparation, supporting their independence.

Staff were registered with the relevant body and understood their responsibilities in continuing professional development and maintaining their registration. The need for core training such as first aid and child protection was monitored to ensure that children were supported by staff who had relevant and up to date information.

Strong teamwork assisted staff to work together to consistently meet the needs of individual children.

Staff had a strong awareness of the space and children in it, allowing them to effectively monitor children's safety and behaviour. Children were reminded to be aware of their own safety and that of others in supportive ways.

## What the service could do better

Staff were aware of some of the best practice guidance available. However, their knowledge and understanding could be further developed to support them in continuing to offer positive experiences for children. There had been some training carried out as a team around evaluating provision against the health and social care standards. We discussed with management how this could be extended to include other best practice guidance available such as Out to Play, My World Outdoor and Our Creative Journey. These documents can be accessed via <http://hub.careinspectorate.com>. This will enable staff to confidently assess where further developments could have the most positive impact on the experiences of children.

Although children were encouraged to put forward their ideas there were a few occasions when action was taken too slowly to effectively reflect the children's interests or progress. Management agreed to support staff in moving forward with children's suggestions at a more appropriate pace. This will ensure that changes or activities offered will be responsive to children's needs and interests.

As a team, staff had carried out assessment of individual activities and the provision overall. We suggested that management could support staff to be more evaluative and link their findings to the needs of individual children.

## 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](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

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

### Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

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

### Previous recommendations

#### Recommendation 1

Where changes are made to children's medication care plans these need to be clearly identified so that staff are very clear what the most up to date instructions are.

**National Care Standards, early education and childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.**

**This recommendation was made on 19 April 2016.**

#### Action taken on previous recommendation

Medication care plans are reviewed with parents every term or when there are changes. This recommendation has been met.

#### Recommendation 2

The provider to provide an action plan complete with timescale to the Care Inspectorate that clearly details the work that is to be undertaken to ensure that children can wash their hands at the optimum temperature.

**National Care Standards, early education and childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.**

**This recommendation was made on 19 April 2016.**

#### Action taken on previous recommendation

An action plan was submitted and the water is now appropriate for hand washing. This recommendation has been met.

#### Recommendation 3

To ensure positive outcomes continue to be achieved for children, the provider, manager and staff should continue to maintain and further develop the systems in place for monitoring staff practice and improving the service.

**National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 14: Well-managed service.**

**This recommendation was made on 19 April 2016.**

## Action taken on previous recommendation

Quality assurance systems are now in place including staff observations, recorded actions and recorded meetings. This recommendation has been met.

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
24 Feb 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
19 Mar 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
28 Mar 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
1 Oct 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 2 - Weak Environment 3 - Adequate Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership 1 - Unsatisfactory
20 Mar 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 3 - Adequate Environment 2 - Weak Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership 2 - Weak
21 Jun 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 1 - Unsatisfactory Environment 1 - Unsatisfactory Staffing 3 - Adequate

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	1 - Unsatisfactory
9 Mar 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	1 - Unsatisfactory
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	1 - Unsatisfactory
11 Oct 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	1 - Unsatisfactory
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	1 - Unsatisfactory
11 Feb 2010	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](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

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