Magic Roundabout Childcare Centre
Day Care of Children

Thornhill Road
Elgin
IV30 6DX

Telephone: 01343 551188

Type of inspection: Unannounced

Completed on: 13 September 2019

Service provided by: Magic Roundabout Childcare Centre
Service provider number: SP2003001903

Service no: CS2006116759
About the service

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

Magic Roundabout Childcare Centre is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children aged from 3 years to primary school age. The provider also has another service Magic Roundabout Childcare Centre Southfield which was situated a short distance away. The manager had responsibility for both services.

The service operates from purpose built premises that are on one level consisting of a large playroom that has direct access to a large secure play that almost surrounds the building. It is located in an urban area of Elgin.

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, active, respected, responsible and included (also known as SHANARRI).

The aims and objectives of the service include:

- to provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment for all children to learn and grow
- to work in partnership with parents/carers to involve them in their child’s growth and education
- to ensure each child is safe, health achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and involved
- to regularly reflect, evaluate and monitor performance to ensure continued improvement
- to offer a broad, general education that provides a variety of opportunities and experiences to learn and develop lifelong skills
- to ensure opportunities and experiences provide children with; challenge, enjoyment, progression, depth, breadth, choice; in addition is, relevant, clear and personal.

What people told us

There was a total of 60 children using the service which was a combination of pre-school and school age. Children were confident, happy and relaxed; some children had been using the group Magic Roundabout since they were babies/toddlers. Children told us that they had lots of different things to play with and particularly liked playing outside, they liked the new wooden balance trail.

Nine parents returned completed care standards questionnaires. We spoke with four parents face to face. They all told us that they were very happy with all aspects of the service. Where children were relatively new to the service, parents felt they had settled well. Parents felt that communication was effective, staff were always welcoming, friendly and approachable. Written comments included:

‘I have used the service for many years and have always been happy, they made a real difference to my child’s development’
‘my child is thriving in the environment, I have complete confidence in staff’
‘the support given to my child has been incredible’
‘I am happy with all aspects of my child’s care so far’
‘I believe my child is receiving a good early learning education, social skills and confidence has grown since being there’.
Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed their own plans for improvement and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

- Quality of care and support: 5 - Very Good
- Quality of environment: 5 - Very Good
- Quality of staffing: not assessed
- Quality of management and leadership: not assessed

What the service does well

Children experienced a welcoming, caring, and relaxed environment that provided a variety of play activities that offered lots of learning opportunities. Large windows maximised natural light which was conducive to children’s psychological wellbeing and mood. The service was clean and free from faults and hazards. Infection control procedures took account of good practice guidance.

Line management responsibility was in place for child protection and staff completed local authority training, so that they had sound knowledge of safeguarding children. The management of medication supported safe practice and there was always access to a trained first aider so that children were treated properly. Incidents were being appropriately recorded and information was shared with the parent/carer promoting the wellbeing of the child.

Space had been thoughtfully arranged so that children were able to move around safely and independently. We saw that children chose to use floor space for playing matching games and music, also role play in the home corner, table top activities such as construction, drawing/mark making and art. Open ended (no fixed purpose) and natural objects/materials were beginning to be threaded throughout the setting so that children were more able to invent and construct their own ideas. Staff positioned themselves so that they were aware of the immediate environment and provided unassuming support, as well as helping children to work out their own theories.

Children were able to choose whether to play inside or outside and benefited from a minimal number of formal routines so that thinking and problem solving were not constrained. All of the children clearly enjoyed being outside including those that attended after school. The setting had and continued to, liaise with a local forest school provider in relation to their outdoor area so that it provided beneficial play and learning experiences.

We saw that children engaged in conversations with each other, friendships had or were being formed. Children worked together during an imaginary play session as fireman, when building a garage, digging for worms and looking for bugs, school age children emptied and cleaned the outdoor play house. Small group activities also encouraged children to talk together and created situations where children took turns and listened. A small room was in the process of being converted to an area that was calm and cosy, mood lighting, drapes and cushions enabled children to relax and recuperate, books and a selection of hand puppets also helped. A small room was equipped with resources and furnishings suitable for school age children.
Staff knew or were getting to know the children well. Early intervention was advocated through partnership working with parents and seeking professional support as necessary. The holistic approach to the recording, monitoring and wellbeing of each of the children by the service encompassed Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). Children experienced sensitive and responsive interactions with staff in a nurturing, adaptable and well supervised environment; as a result they were happy and confident individuals. Parents told us that communication was meaningful and effective. The friendly and receptive approach of the staff had resulted in their child(ren) being supported really well and gaining confidence.

Snacks and meals consisted of a range of healthy foods which took account of the nutritional guidance ‘Setting the table’ which supported children’s growth and development. They complied with children’s dietary needs and food preferences, as identified by parents. The provision of meals continued to be evaluated so that it was a positive experience taking place in a quiet and peaceful way. Children were able to choose when to have their snack and to help themselves to utensils and food items.

**What the service could do better**

Continuous expansion of open ended, natural and real life materials both inside and outside would remain beneficial to learning and the development of skills for life. We also suggested that staff be mindful of connected activities that flow and avoided unnecessary interruption.

Staff having a greater presence with the children during snack time for the purposes of role modelling would enhance social skills. Wider involvement of the children such as the preparation of the snack is also a learning opportunity.

Natural and consistent use of the SHANARRI indicators such as, association with activities and helper roles within the nursery, would help children to have a tangible and meaningful understanding of their own wellbeing.

**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.
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

The cleanliness and maintenance of the nursery should be of an acceptable standard for every session to help maintain children’s health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 30 October 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The premises were clean and being well maintained, supporting children’s health and wellbeing.

Inspection and grading history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Gradings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 Oct 2016</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support, Environment, Staffing, Management and leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 - Good, Not assessed, Not assessed, 4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Sep 2014</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support, Environment, Staffing, Management and leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 - Good, 4 - Good, 4 - Good, 4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Feb 2013</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support, Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 - Very good, 4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Gradings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>5 - Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Mar 2012</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Care and support</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>3 - Adequate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership</td>
<td>Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Oct 2010</td>
<td>Announced (short notice)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Care and support</td>
<td>5 - Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership</td>
<td>Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Oct 2009</td>
<td>Announced (short notice)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Care and support</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership</td>
<td>4 - Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren’t good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cânain eile ma nîthear iarrrtas.

وقد تتوفر تقارير التفتيش هذه والمزيد من اللغات الأخرى.

 هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب.

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.