

Foxbar Out of School Club Day Care of Children

Bridge Building
Amochrie Road
Foxbar
Paisley
PA2 0LB

Telephone: 01505 815 006

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
4 June 2021

Service provided by:
Brediland Out of School Club Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2009010514

Service no:
CS2009230928

About the service

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

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

Foxbar Out of School Club is a Daycare of Children Service, registered to provide care to a maximum of 40 primary school aged children. The service provides after school and holiday care. It operates from premises within the Foxbar area of Paisley, which it has sole use of.

The service's main aims are:

- To provide a warm safe and stimulating environment for the children in their care.
- To foster positive relationships with children and parents to ensure that children are happy in an environment that is essentially a link between home and school.
- To provide a reliable form of childcare allowing parents to pursue further education or employment in the knowledge that their children are well cared for.
- To follow closely the National Care Standards set out for Early Education and Childcare up to the Age of 16.

We wrote this report following an unannounced, focused inspection which evaluated how well children were being supported during the Covid-19 pandemic. We evaluated the service based on key areas that are vital to the support and wellbeing of children experiencing care during the pandemic. One inspector from the Care Inspectorate carried out the inspection using a blended approach of virtual and on-site scrutiny.

We started the inspection on 28 April 2021 and gave feedback to the manager 4 June 2021.

What people told us

We received comments from two parents during this inspection. They told us that their children were happy and enjoyed their time at the service.

They also commented positively on the communication received through emails, and phone calls.

Parents and carers also told us that they were confident that staff were taking appropriate action to reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	3 - Adequate
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Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?

3 - Adequate

We evaluated against Quality Indicator 5.1: Children's health and wellbeing are supported and safeguarded during Covid-19. This included the following:

Children are nurtured and supported throughout their changed experience in their early learning and childcare setting.

Effective communication with families enables responsive care to support children through changing circumstances.

We saw that children were happy in the service and were able to spend time with friends, playing together and having fun. They benefited from a large outdoor play area which promoted active energetic play. Children had nurturing and respectful relationships with staff. This was confirmed by parents who valued the good relationships staff had with children.

A range of communication processes had been developed to engage with families to overcome the challenges that existed due to physical distancing. These included social media posts, messaging apps and telephone calls. Parents told us that they found the information useful.

The service did not have sufficient information to enable staff to fully understand the impact of Covid-19 on children's emotional wellbeing. Children's personal plans should be further developed to ensure documented support strategies and actions are in place for every child. This would support staff to have a consistent approach and meet the needs of individual children. (see area for improvement 1)

Through observations and discussions with staff we found activities for children were not challenging or varied enough. The manager told us that the children's favourite activities were playing outdoors with the footballs. However the manager and staff should consider how to ensure children's play experiences provide a rich variety of stimulating play opportunities. (see area for improvement 2).

Safe arrival and departure times were in place outdoors, parents told us they were happy with this arrangement and understood the reasons for it. We observed that staff were aware of social distancing with each other, parents, and children where possible. Staff wore masks during the session when required and were aware of safe procedures surrounding this. These social distancing measures helped keep children and staff safe.

Quality indicator 5.2: Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff.

Children are protected as staff take all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of infection.

Changes had been made to the way the service operated in line with national operating guidance for Covid-19. This included drop-off and collection taking place at the entrance, increasing the frequency of handwashing and cleaning routines to limit the risk of potential infection.

Staff took precautions and a range of approaches to help reduce the spread of infection as set out in guidance. Prior to reopening, management had created a Covid-19 risk assessment. This was regularly updated and shared with staff and families and set clear guidance and expectations.

Staff understood the symptoms and signs of Covid-19 and were confident in what to do if they or a child displayed symptoms. This created a safe environment for children and staff and helped reduce the risk of transmission.

Physical distancing was implemented throughout the service and staff understood the need for this to ensure a safe environment for children. Staff maintained a two meter physical distance where possible which included during discussions with families at pick up times. This helped to reduce the possible spread of infection.

Enhanced cleaning procedures were in place. Toys, equipment and difficult to clean items had been reduced so that a clean and safe environment could be easily maintained.

Quality indicator-5.3: Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during Covid-19 Staffing arrangements meet the needs of children and families.

Staff are well supported and confident.

The setting was appropriately staffed to meet the individual needs of the children attending, and the additional demands of Covid-19. Contingency plans were in place to cover any absent staff should it be needed.

Staff were being well supported by the management team and valued the support that was being given at both a professional and personal level. Staff felt able to share ideas and voice personal worries and felt supported by each other and the management team.

Training and regular updates provided by the manager helped the staff to develop an understanding of their roles and responsibilities during the Covid-19 pandemic and we found that staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities.

Areas for improvement

1. The manager and staff must ensure that personal plans effectively meet the health, welfare and safety needs of all children.
2. We observed that staff were aware of social distancing with each other, parents, and children where possible. Staff wore masks during the session and were aware of safe procedures surrounding this. These social distancing measures helped keep children and staff safe

What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

Areas for improvement

Previous area for improvement 1

To support children's health and to develop children's independence skills the manager and staff should ensure that:

- The snack menu reflects current best practice so that children are provided with varied, healthy and nutritious snack options
- Children are actively supported to be involved in preparing snack and self-serving.

This area for improvement was made on 8 January 2020.

Action taken since then

During the inspection visit children were offered a healthy snack. However, inline with the current Covid-19 guidance children were not involved in preparing or serving themselves.

Previous area for improvement 2

To ensure children receive high quality care, support and learning experiences the provider should ensure:

- a. The staff access targeted training and development opportunities that support them to develop the skills and knowledge needed to deliver high quality play and learning experiences; and
- b. The staff are effectively supported to implement their learning from training and development opportunities to ensure improved outcomes for children.

This area for improvement was made on 8 January 2020.

Action taken since then

As a result of the impact of Covid-19 staff have had limited opportunities to attend or participate in training. This area for improvement will therefore be carried forward.

Previous area for improvement 3

We recommend that the manager/provider further support staff in understanding their professional roles and responsibilities as Support Workers registered with the Scottish Social Services Council. This should include attending training and development to ensure they maintain the knowledge, skills and experience to provide good outcomes for children. In addition development of their own learning journey known as the 'PRTL'.

This area for improvement was made on 8 January 2020.

Action taken since then

As a result of the impact of Covid-19 staff have had limited opportunities to attend or participate in training. This area for improvement will therefore be carried forward.

Previous area for improvement 4

We recommend the service develop quality assurance systems to ensure they can proactively identify strengths and areas for improvement internally. This should include regular involvement of staff, parents and children in evaluating the quality of the service.

The manager with support from staff should continue to develop her improvement plan and systematically monitor progress and outcomes.

This area for improvement was made on 8 January 2020.

Action taken since then

As a result of the impact of Covid-19, and the service being closed for the majority of the pandemic, the service have had limited opportunities to progress this recommendation. This area for improvement will therefore be carried forward.

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	3 - Adequate
5.1 Children's health and well being are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19	3 - Adequate
5.2 Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff	4 - Good
5.3 Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during COVID-19	4 - Good

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