

Greenbank Woodland Play Day Care of Children

The Coach House
Greenbank Gardens
Flenders Road, Clarkston
Glasgow
G76 8RB

Telephone: 07913 272 717

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
17 November 2021

Service provided by:
Karen Corrie

Service provider number:
SP2014012280

Service no:
CS2014324915

About the service

Greenbank Woodland Play is registered to provide a day care of children service to a maximum of 25 children at any one time aged three years to those not yet attending Primary School. The provider is Karen Corrie trading as Greenbank Woodland Play.

The service is based on the Forest Schools ethos with children spending the majority of the sessions either outdoors in a paddock or in a nearby wooded camp area. In both settings, they can explore the natural environment and enjoy a range of different additional experiences. The service operates Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00 pm.

The aims and objectives include:

- To provide an opportunity for individuals to develop, to learn and to enjoy themselves.
- To provide a safe and non-threatening environment in which children can take risks, make choices and initiate their own learning.
- To help children understand, appreciate and care for the natural environment.
- To provide ways of developing practical life skills in an outdoor environment.

What people told us

Children present during both our visits were happily engaged in the outdoor environment. Three parents contacted us by email to share their views of the nursery;

"Just to say I think Greenbank nursery has been great for my child, she loves it compared to her usual indoor based nursery and has made some great friends. I think it has definitely helped towards her independence and being in touch with nature."

"My son attends the Beechwood site at Greenbank gardens. I just wanted to say my son LOVES this nursery (he also attends his local council nursery). The staff are lovely. My son always comes home happy and excited about the things they did and the kids he played with. One aspect that has been great is the Beechwood site, the numbers are small, so the kids become good friends and have a lot more one to one with the teachers."

"My child has been attending this nursery since August and the stay 'n' play prior to that. I am very happy with all aspects of this nursery and couldn't hope for better."

Self assessment

The provider was not invited to submit a self-assessment in advance of the inspection.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children arrived at the service at different times, meaning that staff were able to welcome them individually and exchange information with parents. At this point, they recorded any important updates in a communication book and highlighted this to other staff. This meant they were all familiar with any changes or events in children's lives that may impact on their emotional wellbeing.

The setting offered children space where they could explore the natural environment safely. They were supported and encouraged to take appropriate risk and had time to practice and develop new skills. A new camp had been established since our last inspection. It provided children with further opportunity to take risks and space to explore alone, while in the sight of adults. Staff working in this camp described how some children benefitted from these different experiences.

In response to the pandemic, the provider had made some changes to the service which meant children spent all of their day outdoors. They had introduced a shelter where children could eat or engage in activities.

On arrival, we met a group of children and staff member who were caring for a sickly bee. We learned that they had rescued the bee by giving water and sugar. We also learned that the children had been delighted at the bee's recovery and had developed a valuable understanding about how to care for animals and insects.

On the day of our visit a child was determined to climb onto the tyre swing independently. He practiced over and over again and when he was successful, he was praised by the staff and other children. This had a positive impact on his confidence and self-esteem.

When we observed staff caring for the children present, it was evident that they knew them well. They spoke of their differing personalities, interests and sensitivities and we learned about the support they offered to children who needed additional reassurance. This included providing resources to capture children's interest on arrival and help them settle into the camp. This meant that some anxious children were able to engage with more confidence.

The staff team comprised of adults with various skills and experience which the provider described as complementary to one another. All had access to online training opportunities to build on their knowledge and skills. They met regularly as a team to discuss the nursery provision and make plans. Written records we viewed showed that they actively contributed to the running of the service, and some were responsible for developing aspects of the nursery.

There were routine meetings in place to discuss individual children and share relevant information. This meant that they had a shared understanding of children who may need additional support and offered a consistent approach to their care.

What the service could do better

Due to the number of children attending and their varied patterns of attendance, staff shared some information informally with one another. While we recognise the value of this communication, we discussed the need to implement formal written records to ensure all information on children was captured and shared effectively.

The provider should now proceed with their plans to review and develop children's personal plans using guidance issued by the Care Inspectorate. Also, we noted that the content and quality of observations varied.

We discussed the need for staff to access professional development opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills in observing children. We also asked them to consider peer support amongst the team to improve written observations and identified next steps.

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

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
29 Nov 2018	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
30 Sep 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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Care Inspectorate
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Dundee
DD1 4NY

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