

Flexible Childcare Services Scotland (Cummings Park) Day Care of Children

Cummings Park Nursery
Cummings Park Crescent
ABERDEEN
AB16 7AS

Telephone: 07502055023

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
11 September 2023

Service provided by:
Flexible Childcare Services Scotland
SCIO

Service provider number:
SP2019013370

Service no:
CS2022000029

About the service

Flexible Childcare Services Scotland (Cummings Park) is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 80 children at any one time, from the age of two years to not yet attending primary school.

The service is provided from a purpose-built nursery within the residential area of Northfield in Aberdeen. The children have access to two large playrooms with integral kitchens and toilets. There is direct access from the playrooms to a large outdoor play area.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced follow up inspection which took place on 11 September 2023 between 09:30 and 11:00. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, information submitted by the service, and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with staff and management
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Positive changes to the outdoor environment meant children were able to play safely outside.

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 setting?	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 setting?

3 - Adequate

Changes to the outdoor environment meant children were able to play safely outside. The outside play area had been risk assessed by staff before children went out to play. This helped identify any potential hazards and prevent any accidents. Children were involved in this task which contributed to their understanding of keeping safe.

The outdoor environment looked inviting with a good range of interesting resources. For example, wooden pallets had been used creatively to develop safe areas for children to climb. Children had fun balancing on the wooden logs and climbing on the cable reels. This supported their physical development and helped develop their confidence when moving.

The mud kitchen had been moved to a new location within the garden and looked more attractive for play. This meant children had better access to the pots, pans, and mud and were more able to share and play with friends. Staff were more able to supervise and interact with the children to help keep them safe and extend their thinking.

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

Requirements

Requirement 1

By 10 July 2023, the provider must ensure children are kept safe, both indoors and when playing outside.

To do this, the provider must at a minimum ensure:

- a) Staff are aware of the factors which raise the potential risk of children leaving the environment unsupervised and take action to prevent any occurrences. Effective risk assessments are carried out by competent staff.
- b) The outdoor area, including the fencing, plants, and shrubbery, are appropriate and keep children safe and protected.

This is to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) (Welfare of users) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210).

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'My environment is secure and safe' (HSCS 5.19).

Supporting guidance includes:

'Keeping Children Safe - Look, Think, Act Campaign' (SIMOA). This can be found at: <https://hub.careinspectorate.com/>.

This requirement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken on previous requirement

Changes to the outdoor environment meant children were able to play safely outside. The outside play area had been risk assessed by staff before children went out to play. This helped identify any potential hazards and prevent any accidents. Children were involved in this task which contributed to their understanding of keeping safe. There were no broken sticks on the fence and there were no glass fragments on the ground. Pallets had been removed from the fence to help prevent children climbing and leaving the building unsupervised. Management had shared the Care Inspectorate's 'Keeping Children Safe (SIMOA)' campaign with staff to help develop their understanding of keeping children safe at nursery and were continuing to include this as a topic during team meetings. Rugs had been placed at the base of the hill to help prevent any injuries when playing in this area.

Met - within timescales

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 wellbeing, the provider and manager should ensure children are provided with the individual care they need. This should include but not be limited to:

- a) Ensuring children's up-to-date care and support needs are included within their personal plan and staff use this information to effectively support them.
- b) Ensuring staff are knowledgeable and competent in GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) and use this information to provide individualised and responsive care relevant to children's needs.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'My needs, as agreed in my personal plan, are fully met and my wishes and choices are respected' (HSCS 1.23).

This area for improvement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 2

To ensure children experience positive and nurturing mealtimes, the manager and staff should ensure they are well planned to meet children's individual needs. This should include but not be limited to:

- a) There are enough staff at mealtimes to effectively supervise and support children.
- b) Staff consider the age, stage, and development of children when encouraging children to self serve.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'If I need help with eating and drinking, this is carried out in a dignified way and my personal preferences are respected' (HSCS 1.34).

This area for improvement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 3

To support children's learning and development, the manager and staff should ensure children experience high quality play and learning relevant to their age and stage of development. In order to do this, the provider should ensure staff are knowledgeable and trained in supporting children's learning and use this to plan meaningful play experiences.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'As a child, I have fun as I develop my skills in understanding, thinking, investigation, and problem solving, including through imaginative play and storytelling' (HSCS 1.30).

This area for improvement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 4

To support positive and improved outcomes for children and families, the provider and manager should ensure effective quality assurance systems are fully embedded into practice. This should include but not be limited to:

- a) Audits of medications administered.
- b) Audits of children's chronologies.
- c) Monitoring of staff practice, including interactions to support children's learning.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes' (HSCS 4.19).

This area for improvement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Previous area for improvement 5

To ensure children are provided with consistent nurturing interactions to support their health, welfare, and development, the provider and manager should ensure staff are effectively deployed to provide high quality outcomes for children. This should include but not be limited to:

- a) Ensuring children are fully supported at mealtimes by skilled and experienced staff.
- b) Ensuring children are supported by staff skilled in developing their learning.
- c) Ensuring children are supervised when playing outdoors to keep them safe and well.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice, and follow their professional and organisational codes' (HSCS 3.14).

This area for improvement was made on 2 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This area for improvement has not been assessed and remains in place.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

How good is our setting?	3 - Adequate
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	3 - Adequate

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