

Woodside Partnership Out Of School Care Service Day Care of Children

Woodside Fountain Centre Marquis rd Wood
Marquis Rd Woodside
Aberdeen
AB242QY

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
19 February 2026

Service provided by:
Printfield Community Project

Service provider number:
SP2003000359

Service no:
CS2003001800

About the service

Woodside Partnership Out of School Care Service is registered to operate a care service from Woodside Fountain Centre during term time only. The space consisted of a play room, the use of a large gym hall and toilets. There is no outdoor play area attached to the centre to allow for free flow indoor/outdoor play.

The accommodation is at ground floor level, there are public transport links nearby and on street parking is available. The centre is a short walk from Kittybrewster Primary School and Woodside Primary School, the two schools current children attend.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced follow up inspection which took place on 17 and 18 February 2026 between 14:30 and 18:00.

The inspection focused on the outstanding requirements and areas for improvement made during the previous inspection of 4, 5 and 6 November 2025. We evaluated how the service had addressed these to improve outcomes for children. Feedback was provided to the provider, manager and staff on 19 February 2026. 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, registration information, information submitted by the service, and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In assessing progress with the requirements and areas for improvement, we:

- Spent time with children using the service
- Spoke with the provider, management and staff
- Observed practice and children's experiences
- Reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Sufficient progress had been made in addressing some of the concerns from the previous inspection.
- Two requirements and two areas for improvement had been met. Two requirements and two areas for improvement remained unmet.
- We have extended the requirements timescale and continued the areas for improvement to allow the service further time to make the improvements needed.
- Significant improvements had been made to the security of the building and to risk assessments to support children's safety and wellbeing.
- Medication procedures had improved, but staff failed to identify one child's health needs, resulting in no personal plan to ensure safe and responsive care.
- Work had been undertaken to develop quality assurance systems. However these need to improve further to ensure children experienced consistently positive outcomes.
- The provider, manager, and staff were committed to supporting the further development of the service.

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

Requirements

Requirement 1

By 4 February 2026, the provider must demonstrate that the service is effectively managed to deliver high-quality care and positive outcomes for children. To achieve this, the provider must ensure:

- Managers and staff have sufficient protected time and resources to carry out their roles effectively, including planning, supervision, and professional development.
- All leadership roles, responsibilities, and lines of accountability are clearly defined and understood by staff.
- Continuous improvement is supported by effective quality assurance processes, including outcome focused self evaluation, improvement plans with targets and regular audits of practice and outcomes.

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); and

Section 7(1) (a) and (b) of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019.

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); and

'I use a service and organisation that are well led and managed' (HSCS 4.23).

This requirement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken on previous requirement

Progress made in addressing this requirement has been limited, and current actions had not yet resulted in improved outcomes for children. There had been minimal changes to the time allocated for the manager and staff, restricting their ability to carry out management and leadership tasks effectively. Three additional hours per week allocated to the manager have largely been absorbed by covering school pickups due to staffing issues. This has meant that there has been limited meaningful increase in management capacity.

The provider acknowledged the need for the registered manager to be present within the setting to support and lead on a more regular basis. Competing commitments, however, have continued to prevent this. Recruitment efforts to recruit a new manager with capacity to fulfil the required hours have been unsuccessful with applicants lacking required childcare qualifications or experience. This has left the service without adequate leadership.

Staff continued to operate without dedicated time to prepare fully for sessions and to familiarise themselves with and review key documentation, including children's personal plans. The provider advised staff during the inspection that there would be hours available to them to support this.

There has been some progress, with staff valuing the extra time in place for an extended staff meeting each month in addition to the shorter weekly meetings. This had improved opportunities for discussion and development. Staff had also begun engaging with 'A quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors: school age childcare' (QIF) to support them to identify what they were doing well and what could be developed further to support positive outcomes for children. They were also working through inspection actions, demonstrating emerging improvement.

However, audits remained ineffective, failing to identify key issues such as gaps in personal plans and medication systems (see requirement 3 and area for improvement 4).

To improve outcomes, the provider must increase staffing capacity, strengthen self evaluation, implement time bound outcome focused improvement planning, and ensure robust auditing for continuous improvement.

This requirement has not been met and we have agreed an extension to 6 April 2026.

Not met

Requirement 2

By 4 February 2026, to support children's safety, the provider must ensure that all staff have been safely recruited in line with best practice and legislation. To achieve this, the provider must ensure that prior to any new member of staff commencing employment within the service the following must be in place:

- Two satisfactory written references, one of which should be from the most recent previous employer.
- An up to date PVG certificate.
- Confirmation of registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) or other appropriate professional registration body, or ensure registration within six month of commencement of employment if not already registered.

This is to comply with section 7(1) (a) of the Health and Care (Staffing) (Scotland) Act 2019.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'I am confident that people who support and care for me have been appropriately and safely recruited' (HSCS 4.24).

This requirement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken on previous requirement

All recruitment checks have now been successfully undertaken.

This requirement was found to have been met.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 3

By 4 February 2026, the provider must implement and maintain medication procedures that fully safeguard children's health and comply with current best practice and legislation. To do this the provider must as a minimum:

- Confirm and record that the first dose of any prescribed medication has been administered at home before being given in the setting, to reduce the risk of adverse reactions.
- Ensure all medication care plans contain accurate, complete, and up-to-date information about the child's health needs and medication requirements.
- Ensure medication procedures are reviewed and updated to reflect current best practice and legislation.
- Ensure monthly audits of medication records and care plans confirm compliance and identify improvements, ensuring safe administration of medication.

This is in order to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) (Welfare of users) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulation 2011 (SSI 2011/2010).

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'Any treatment or intervention that I experience is safe and effective' (HSCS 1.24).

This requirement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken on previous requirement

A record of all medication stored on the premises was now in place. The administration of medication policy had been updated since the last inspection and now reflected current best practice guidance. It should be further developed to clearly outline that the service will not administer the first dose of any new medication

(unless it is emergency medication). Samples of medication care plans showed that forms now include confirmation that the first dose of medication was administered at home.

However, there continued to be significant gaps in information and a lack of clarity in key documentation, which presented a risk to children's health needs being fully understood and met. Important health information recorded in one child's personal plan had not been identified. As a result, an appropriate and robust health care plan was not in place to support the child's needs. Staff were unaware of the child's health condition, meaning they were not equipped to monitor for signs of deterioration or respond appropriately. This lack of awareness limited the service's ability to ensure safe, effective and responsive care. Appropriate action was immediately taken by the manager to address these concerns.

This requirement has not been met and we have agreed an extension to 6 April 2026.

Not met

Requirement 4

By 4 February 2026, the provider must ensure that robust measures are in place to safeguard children. To do this the provider must, at a minimum:

- Implement environmental security measures to prevent unauthorised access to the playroom and ensure children cannot leave unsupervised.
- Update and maintain detailed risk assessments to support the safety of children both within the setting, transitioning to the setting from school and when undertaking activities in other locations
- Ensure that risk assessments are reviewed regularly and whenever circumstances change, adhering to current best practice and legislation.

This is in order to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) (Welfare of users) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulation 2011 (SSI 2011/2010).

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).

This requirement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken on previous requirement

The provider had taken prompt action to strengthen environmental security. Door alarms had been installed following the last inspection and were observed to be working effectively. Both entrances to the playroom were locked when children were present. A bell system was also now in place to manage appropriate parent and carer access.

Safety arrangements for toilet access were robust. A barrier was used to prevent unauthorised access to the corridor during operating hours, supported by clear signage. An accessible toilet outside the barrier was available for wider community centre use.

The building based risk assessment was found to be appropriate and reflective of current practice. It accurately captured the measures observed during inspection, including locked doors, functioning alarms, close supervision and staff responses to any unauthorised persons entering the hall.

Staff practice during transitions from school to the club was consistently safe and well managed, whether children travelled by foot or by minibus. Staff were encouraged to further consider the use of high visibility clothing in all light conditions. Two staff members accompanying each pick up was standard practice which supported safety and wellbeing.

The risk assessment for school collections was largely consistent with strong practice observed during inspection. This included use of the safest routes, children staying close together, and appropriate use of traffic light crossings. Appropriate procedures were in place for situations where a child does not appear or leaves the group. The risk assessment did not highlight that emergency medication, including for example inhalers, must be transported on every pick up. The risk assessment should also be updated to reflect the current use of the minibus and associated safety measures.

Risk assessments for outdoor play identified relevant hazards, including children leaving the play area, falls and risks from dogs or members of the public. A range of mitigation measures including an initial check of the area, adequate staffing and high vigilance were in place and were appropriate. However, arrangements for any medication that may require to be administered were not referenced and should be added.

The provider had improved security and safety measures, with strong staff practice and appropriate risk assessments, although updated information about emergency medication arrangements in all activities is required. The provider confirmed that the risk assessments would be updated accordingly and the team had already confirmed changes to practice.

This requirement was found to have been met.

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

The provider must ensure that the service complies with the conditions of their registration at all times.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'I use a service and organisation that are well led and managed' (HSCS 4.23).

This area for improvement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken since then

Following the last inspection the provider submitted to the Care Inspectorate an application to vary the conditions of their registration. This was granted and now accurately reflects the spaces the service is using in connection with their service.

This area for improvement was found to have been met.

Previous area for improvement 2

To help support the improvement of a service which reflects their high aspirations, children and their families and the wider staff team should be actively and fully included in the design and review of the services vision, values and aims.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'I can be meaningfully involved in how the organisations that support and care for me work and develop' (HSCS 4.6).

This area for improvement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken since then

A statement of aims had been developed since the last inspection. It reflected current practice, including that the service provides a "fun and stimulating environment where each child can reach their full potential through social, educational, and play-based experiences."

The service should now consider developing its vision, values, and aims (VVA) further and ensure that children and families are encouraged and supported to be fully involved in this process.

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

Previous area for improvement 3

Children should have daily access to outdoor play opportunities that promote physical activity, learning opportunities, fresh air, and positive physical and mental wellbeing.

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 play outdoors every day and regularly explore a natural environment' (HSCS 1.32).

This area for improvement was made on 6 November 2025.

Action taken since then

Children had not been accessing outdoor play on a regular basis. The environment was challenging to accommodate easy accessibility to the outdoors as the service does not have a dedicated outdoor space.

Staff described making some use of the nearby park and, previously, a small garden area at the front of the building. However, the garden space was no longer used due to safety concerns. Another potential area at the side of the building was discussed, which could be developed for planting activities, chalking, art, and other outdoor experiences. Staff also planned to continue using the gym hall to support more energetic physical play.

This area for improvement has not been met 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.

To find out more

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 cànan eile ma nithear iarrtas.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

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.