

Mini Monkeys Day Care of Children

Brunel Road
West Gourdie Industrial Estate
Dundee
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Telephone: 01382 624 312

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
6 March 2026

Service provided by:
Tanya Sneddon

Service provider number:
SP2017989412

Service no:
CS2017360818

About the service

Mini Monkeys is a registered daycare of children service and operates within West Gourdie Industrial Estate, Dundee. The service has a security entrance system, designated playrooms, children's toilets, kitchen and enclosed outdoor play spaces.

The service is registered to provide care to a maximum of 45 children who are not yet attending Primary School, of whom no more than 9 may be under the age of 2 years.

About the inspection

This was an follow up inspection which took place on 6 March 2026 between 07:30 and 11:30. 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 making our evaluations of the service we: spoke with four staff and two management, observed practice and daily life and reviewed documents

Key messages

Children were being cared for by enough staff to meet their needs.

Children were observed to be well supported by nurturing staff.

Children were supported by staff with hand washing at appropriate times during their play.

Management were reflective of continued improvements and were sourcing relevant training to meet the needs of the staff team and improve outcomes for children.

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

Requirements

Requirement 1

By 2 March 2026, the provider must improve the quality of care, support and outcomes for children.

To do this, the provider must at a minimum:

- a) ensure staffing levels consistently meet the needs of children throughout the day;
- b) ensure staff are effectively deployed to ensure the needs of children are met throughout the day;
- c) ensure room moves are planned and do not detract from the care, support and play, learning and development opportunities for children.

This is in order to comply with:

Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland(Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011(SSI 2011 / 210).

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 3.15: My needs are met by the right number of people.

This requirement was made on 15 January 2026.

Action taken on previous requirement

Staffing patterns and levels were reviewed to ensure that sufficient staff were available throughout the day to meet the needs of all children.

Staff appeared more settled in their roles and demonstrated increased confidence in their practice, as well as in their engagement with inspectors.

Staff had sufficient time to provide individual care and support to children as needed, particularly when they became unsettled. We observed nurturing care provided by staff who clearly knew the children well.

Core staff were more consistently present in the rooms, resulting in fewer transitions for both support staff and children.

Children's room moves were sensitively supported. Staff were observed gently preparing individual children for transition to their designated rooms once the full staff team was on shift and most children had arrived. This approach enabled children to transition confidently and comfortably to their familiar room environments.

Handovers from families were unhurried and well supported by staff. All families were warmly welcomed and given the opportunity to help their child transition confidently from home into the nursery environment.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 2

By 2 March 2026, the provider must, to protect children's health and wellbeing make proper provision for, and establish the consistent implementation of, effective hand hygiene practices.

To do this, the provider must at a minimum:

- a) ensure staffing levels and deployment allow staff to supervise, support, and model handwashing appropriately;
- b) ensure all children have access to hand washing facilities at all times throughout the day as detailed in infection, prevention and control guidance.

This is in order to comply with:

Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland(Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011(SSI 2011 / 210).

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 4.11: I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.

This requirement was made on 15 January 2026.

Action taken on previous requirement

Children were observed to be well supported with handwashing. They demonstrated confidence in the routine, independently following the steps and engaging in conversations with one another about handwashing.

All rooms contained handwashing facilities that children could access at any time throughout the day, either independently or with adult support. Staff were attentive and aware when children independently accessed the bathrooms, positioning themselves nearby to provide sensitive observation and assistance when required.

Staff were observed to wash their hands regularly throughout the session, in line with hand hygiene guidance. All staff demonstrated awareness of the children's individual needs and provided appropriate support to promote effective hand hygiene practices.

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 ensure all staff in the setting have been recruited in line with 'Safer Recruitment through Better Recruitment' guidance management should enhance the current approach to recruitment. This should include but not be limited to:

- a) ensure all staff in the setting have been recruited in line with guidance;
- b) put a quality monitoring system in place to ensure there is an overview of recruitment within the setting.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which states that: 'I am confident that people who support and care for me have been appropriately and safely recruited.' (HSCS 4.24).

This is to ensure that practice is consistent with the Scottish Social Services Council, Codes of Practice for social service workers and employers (2024). Codes of practice for employers of social service workers, Section 1 – 'Make sure people you recruit are suitable to be social service workers and that they understand their roles and responsibilities.

This area for improvement was made on 1 July 2025.

Action taken since then

Not assessed during this inspection

Previous area for improvement 2

To ensure effective self-evaluation of the service, the provider should develop a more robust quality assurance process. This could include developing consultations with children, families and staff and using an appropriate benchmarking tool for self-evaluating the service. Staff could also be empowered to take responsibility for tasks within the improvement plan.

This is to ensure 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 14 February 2025.

Action taken since then

Not assessed during this inspection

Previous area for improvement 3

To support children's wellbeing, play and learning, the provider should ensure staff access training appropriate to their role and apply this in practice. This should include, but not limited to, training in play pedagogy, the voice of the child and complaint handling.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 3.14: 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.

This area for improvement was made on 15 January 2025.

Action taken since then

Not assessed during this inspection

Previous area for improvement 4

To support children's wellbeing, play and learning, the provider should ensure staff access training appropriate to their role and apply this in practice. This should include, but not limited to, training in nurturing and positive care, and personal data management.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 3.14: 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.

This area for improvement was made on 15 January 2025.

Action taken since then

Not assessed during this inspection

Complaints

Please see Care Inspectorate website (www.careinspectorate.com) for details of complaints about the service which have been upheld.

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