

Cranley Nursery Colinton Day Care of Children

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Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 24 November 2016

Service provided by:
Cranley Nurseries Limited

Service provider number:
SP2013012215

Care service number:
CS2013322284

About the service

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 6 December 2013.

Cranley Nursery Colinton is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 25 children at any one time aged from two years to entry into primary school. They operate between the hours of 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday. The service is part of a chain of four nurseries within close proximity of each other in south-west Edinburgh. This service is located in a sports pavilion in Colinton, Edinburgh. The children have access to a large playroom, two small playrooms, toilets, a nappy changing area, a veranda, a large grass area opposite the main entrance, a large garden to the side of the service and an allotment. The service aims to 'provide a stimulating and supporting environment for children where they can explore their interests and feel safe and secure.'

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

What people told us

There were 15 children in attendance on the day we visited. We observed the session in order to assess their experiences. We found that the children were very stimulated, engaged and happy in the service. We saw they were well-supported and had made many friendships. The children were articulate, confident and playful. They were keen to speak with us to find out who we were and asked questions to find out more. They enjoyed showing us their toys and telling us about their games they made up whilst role playing.

We sent nine care standards questionnaires to the service to give to parents of children who attended. We received eight completed questionnaires before the inspection took place. All eight parents strongly agreed that overall they were happy with the quality of care their child received in this service.

Some parents left comments which we shared anonymously with the service. Some have been included below which represent the parents views.

'Extremely satisfied with all areas.'

'Very good transition between curriculums, the team met with me to go over the changes. Very warm, caring and knowledgeable staff. Good mix between nursery activities and group activities with key workers. Excellent use of outdoor areas. Opportunities for parents to be involved - open evenings, sponsored events, harvesting vegetables and building bug hotels.'

'Really pleased with how much my child has come on since starting. They have made friends and built up good relationships with the staff. Regular emails and talking with staff after each session keeps me up to date. I feel the nursery has prepared my child well for the journey to primary school.'

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment from the provider.

The provider identified what it thought the service did well and gave examples of improvements for example, enhancing the outdoor learning experiences after reading the 'My world outdoors' best practice document. The self-assessment clearly identified some key areas that the provider believed could be improved and showed how the service intended to do this. The provider told us how the people who used the care service had taken part in the self-assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of their plans for improving the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

Staff continued to meet children's individual needs and showed respect for their preferences. Children's emotional needs were dealt with sensitively which developed their confidence and self-coping skills. The nurturing, warm and caring team ensured that children's time in the service was positive, productive and focussed around play.

The team were working on improving the daily routine to take account of the best practice document 'Building the Ambition'. Children were given more freedom with guidance and responsibility to make decisions. This showed respect for their choices, ensured they were not rushed and gave them more independence and confidence.

Staff recognised the benefits to children of regular access to active outdoor play. The garden, allotment and orchard provided a wide variety of challenging, energetic, physical and natural play experiences.

Outdoor experiences like growing and harvesting vegetables created opportunities for children to increase their knowledge of where their food comes from and how it supported good health. The team were experienced at engaging the children in interesting discussions as they played and added value through skilled interactions. Using the natural environment and picking up on children's interests meant that experiences were relevant and pitched at the right level to promote learning.

Resources offered contributed to children engaging in interesting, varied play and learning which supported their all-round development. For example the woodwork area allowed children to learn safety, responsibility and develop physical skills and strength. The rich play environment meant children could learn skills, explore and challenge themselves through open access to lots of experiences.

Children's play was observed to be flexible and relaxed in the free flow environment. This resulted in a calm atmosphere yet with an active dynamic because children were often engrossed in their play.

The well organised management team understood the importance of quality assurance. Encouraging staff to take joint responsibility of the improvement plans meant that everyone worked together to achieve a better service for children. The team demonstrated a commitment to developing the service and themselves professionally. They shared a positive outlook with agreed values. This resulted in a service which knew its strengths and areas for development. There was a very good system in place to ensure the manager and staff had support from the provider and group director who were actively involved in sustaining and improving the high quality care service.

What the service could do better

The provider should continue to review the structure of the day to further embed the principles of 'Building the Ambition' which promotes prolonged and uninterrupted play; and minimal adult led times. For example, children should not be asked to tidy up for 'experience time' and instead be offered it as they play. This was something the team had been reflecting on and the manager agreed to take this into consideration.

Moving forward, further consideration could be given to increasing the open-ended and natural play materials indoors. This would help to further encourage creativity, exploration and use of imaginative play in children.

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.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Grading	
2 Dec 2014	Announced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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