

Bonnington House Nursery Day Care of Children

Bonnington House
159 Newhaven Road
Edinburgh
EH6 4QA

Telephone: 0131 555 4140

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 30 January 2018

Service provided by:
Bonnington House Nursery School Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2015012543

Care service number:
CS2015339281

About the service

Bonnington House Nursery School Ltd is situated on the edge of Victoria Park in Trinity, North Edinburgh. This is the first inspection for the service since it was taken over by the new provider in May 2016.

The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 105 children at any one time, aged from three months to not yet attending primary school, of whom a maximum of 32 children will be under two years.

The aims of the service included to:

Provide a high quality child care service for children aged 3 months to 5 years.

Create a stimulating and nurturing environment in which each child is encouraged to develop socially, emotionally, physically, intellectually and culturally towards their full potential.

To work in partnership with parents and families, to see each child in the context of his/her family.

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 GIRFEC. 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

Parents who returned the Care Standards Questionnaires were very positive about the service. Their comments included:

- "An excellent nursery which provides a safe and healthy environment for the development of children whilst encouraging fun and learning".
- "Bonnington House Nursery has been excellent for our son. He loves it, adores the staff and has learned and developed so much".
- "The nursery is run extremely efficiently and parents and children are made to feel so welcome. My child's face lights up when we arrive at the front door which is a testament to how much they love the place. The staff are delightful, they are always smiling and have a genuine willingness to help you with anything".
- "Wide variety of topics explored and I am amazed at the depth of understanding my child picks up. Excellent outdoor space and brilliant effort and initiative used to continuously improve and enhance this. Forest school and other outdoor activities are a key strength. "

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children were being cared for by a well-motivated and caring staff team. Staff valued and respected the parents and carers of the children attending their service. They were committed to working in partnership with them to support the children in their care.

A parents committee was an opportunity for parents to have their voices heard. Parents had been asked for their views on the nursery menu and a new menu had been developed. The nursery caterer was attending the next parents meeting to discuss this. This was meaningful participation which involved parents in their child's care. Twice yearly Stay and Play sessions offered parents further opportunity to take part in activities with their children.

All children had personal plans with information provided by parents. We discussed the format of these and the review procedures with staff. We suggested ways of improving these so that they became working documents which provided staff with relevant and meaningful information to support children's health, welfare and safety needs. All children had e-learning journals, we saw that there were a lot of group observations and not all children had appropriate next steps. We found the same in the floorbooks which staff used for planning. We discussed this with the depute manager and explored ways in which these could be improved.

We saw that staff interacted with children very well. They talked to them gently and responded to them with affection. Staff praised children and encouraged them to learn to share and to be safe. Children were making friends and were aware of the needs of others. We heard them singing and laughing together. Children's achievements at nursery and from home were celebrated. Staff were positive and praised children. This contributed to increased self esteem and confidence.

Children could visit other rooms within the nursery to see friends and siblings or to play. This offered choice and autonomy to children. There was freeflow between the downstairs playrooms, allowing children to choose where they wanted to be.

Lunches were provided by an outside catering agency. We saw that staff sat with children which contributed to lunchtime being a sociable experience. Older children were encouraged to be independent by pouring their

drinks and clearing their plates away. We suggested some ways of improving the lunchtime experience for younger children so that they had more opportunity to develop independence.

Extra curricular activities available to all children, included French, drama, dance and ball skills. This offered the opportunity for children to be physical, creative and learn new skills.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Bonnington House Nursery was a bright clean environment with lots of natural light and had large well maintained gardens.

Core resources throughout the nursery offered children access to a varied range of experiences that supported them to learn and achieve. The nursery had made good progress in introducing natural, open-ended materials into the environment. These resources promoted the development of enquiry and problem solving. Children's creativity was encouraged through a wide variety of resources such as paint, playdough, small world and construction.

Children were safe as the environment was clean, organised and secure. The outdoor area was well resourced and offered a variety of spaces for children to explore. All children had daily access to outdoor play and were involved in carrying out risk assessments before the outdoor area was used. They had been involved in planning and building some resources for the outdoor area. These opportunities contributed to children being responsible, safe and included. A member of staff in the pre-school room was trained in Forest Kindergarten and children went to the local woods. Children had a six week block of visits to the local woods. This was an opportunity for children to explore the outdoors whilst learning how to use tools, make dens and light fires. Children told us "We made a fire at the forest and then cooked marshmallows", "I built a fire and played". This contributed to children being confident in different environments.

The nursery had made positive links with a local care home for older people. This experience was valuable in giving children opportunities to be included in their local community and learn more about others. The nursery staff planned to increase these visits.

In the pre-school room, we saw some extended periods of sitting for children in group activities. We discussed with staff how they could provide the same experiences outwith large groups so that children are not constrained by overly formal routines of the day.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

There was a well established staff team who worked well together and provided a relaxed and happy atmosphere.

Staff knew children in their care well and were aware of their needs and how to meet them. We saw that not all of this information was recorded and suggested that it was, so that all staff were aware of where children were in their learning and development.

All staff had received training in child protection, first aid and food hygiene. This contributed to keeping children safe and healthy. Training received in self evaluation, additional support for learning and promoting positive behaviour had positive outcomes for children. In addition staff had received training in the curricular area in which they worked. This enabled them to plan appropriate experiences for children.

Regular staff meetings were held which was an opportunity for staff to plan for the needs of individual children. Whole staff meetings were used as an opportunity for in-house training, sharing of best practice documents and self evaluation.

All staff kept a record of their continuing professional development. They should now reflect on their learning and how it impacts on the outcomes for children. All staff were registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and are required to submit their post registration training and learning to demonstrate how they are maintaining and developing effective knowledge, skills and values.

Staff were pro-active and happy to discuss with us how they could make improvements. By the second day of the inspection staff had already implemented some simple changes. This demonstrated their willingness and capacity to improve.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

A recruitment policy and procedure ensured that safe recruitment practices were in place. This contributed to safeguarding children. Procedures were in place for measuring staff practice, including three and six month reviews as well as annual appraisals, practice observations and peer review. We discussed with the depute manager that they should use this information to focus on the quality of outcomes for children.

Staff felt well supported by the nursery management. Staff had regular opportunities to meet and to discuss both the needs of the children and improvements in the nursery. Staff had opportunities to develop their own practice and learning so that they could care for children and meet their needs effectively. Staff were familiar with self-evaluation and the relevant good practice indicators and used them regularly to reflect on how well they were doing. We found that they were open to suggestions and new ideas and were actively looking for opportunities to learn from others.

The nursery improvement plan identified areas for improvement and was regularly reviewed by management and staff at team meetings. They had been looking at the new National Health and Social Care Standards and discussing how they could be used in their self evaluation process. This reflection contributed to improved outcomes for children.

We discussed with the depute manager that there had been some events in the nursery which should have been notified to the Care Inspectorate. We signposted them to 'Notifications that services must make' available on our website. This is to ensure that children are kept safe and healthy and the Care Inspectorate maintain an overview of what is happening in the service.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

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.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the service registered.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the service registered.

Inspection and grading history

This service does not have any prior inspection history or grades.

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