

Summerside Kindergarten Limited Day Care of Children

1 Summerside Street
Edinburgh
EH6 4NT

Telephone: 0131 554 6560

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

13 February 2020

Service provided by:

Summerside Kindergarten Limited

Service provider number:

SP2014012304

Service no:

CS2014325935

About the service

Summerside Kindergarten Limited (referred to as the service throughout this report) registered with the Care Inspectorate in 2014. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 35 children aged from three months of age to entry to primary school age, with a maximum of nine children under two years.

The service is based in the Trinity area of Edinburgh. The main accommodation consists of three playrooms, children's toilets and changing areas, a kitchen and enclosed garden. The service also has its own allotment, which children regularly visit. There are two cabins in the garden, one is called the "L'atelier" and is a multi-purpose space, which children use for a variety of activities such as music, dance and role-play. The other cabin is used as a staff room.

The service aims to "provide a learning environment where children feel safe and secure within our care".

What people told us

During the inspection, we spoke with many children and spent time observing them in their play. Older children were curious about our visits and were keen to tell us about their experiences. Some of their comments included:

"I like our Play to Learn class. We play football and games".

"We love to go to our allotment. We grow things there."

Prior to the inspection, we sent out 20 Care Standard Questionnaires (CSQs) for parents to complete. Twelve CSQs were returned to us, all respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives at this service". We spoke with a further two families as part of the inspection visits. Comments from both sources included:

"My child enjoys her days at nursery, and we have no complaints."

"The range of experiences the children participate in are excellent, imaginative and increase the children's confidence, for instance making hammocks and dens or a 'Gruffalo Trap' in the woods/underneath in the park nearby. I love the service so much have recommended it to many of my friends. Staff are also excellent, good balance between friendly and knowledgeable. My child loves it too."

"I am very pleased and confident in the quality of care provided at Summerside. There is a warm, nurturing environment across the rooms and my child seems to know and be comfortable with all staff members. There are a good variety of activities on offer, including lots of opportunities to be outside."

"Summerside provide a brilliant range of activities and our child especially loves the allotment trips. She has frequently shown gardening skills that she has picked up during one of these trips."

"The opportunities for outdoor learning are excellent."

"We are so pleased that chose Summerside for our child. Since starting as a 1 year old to a now bright and energetic 3 years old, they have loved attending nursery. Staff ensure that the children get loads of fresh air, varied activity and lots of love. The allotment is also a great asset."

"As well as encouraging development in general we feel our child has benefitted from the friendly and fun atmosphere at the nursery. Another real positive is the good use made of local resources in particular the library, parks and nursery allotment."

"We really appreciate the extra events the nursery holds like the summer BBQ and carols night - the children really love them, and it fosters a wonderful sense of community."

"Care is wonderful, really good. Staff are very friendly."

"Nursery is clean and tidy. Homely feel."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to submit a self-assessment prior to the inspection. As part of the inspection we discussed the service improvement work, including the strengths they had identified and any areas of development.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children were happy, confident and secure. They engaged in sustained periods of uninterrupted play. Older children were developing their creativity and problem-solving skills through construction and role play. Some children built complex models, co-operating well together and sharing their ideas with each other. Younger children enjoyed exploring open-ended natural materials that helped them to be curious and problem solve. Children were developing their communication and language skills through participation in songs and stories both in groups and individually with staff.

Most experiences were planned based on children's interests, which resulted in them being motivated and engaged in their play. Children's experiences and learning was recorded on their online learning journals. Observations were continuing to develop, and staff were gaining confidence when thinking about how they captured children's needs and skills through these observations. However, the next steps within the learning journals were not always meaningful and significant in relation to the observations recorded. This resulted in missed opportunities to effectively track children's progress over time. The management team had identified this as an area for improvement, and we were confident they would continue to work with staff to enhance the quality and use of next steps to promote children's learning and progress.

Personal plans were now regularly reviewed with parents and staff were using the information to plan for children's individual care and support needs. Improved medication procedures were contributing to children

being safe and healthy. Staff were clear on the reasons for the medication and the signs and symptoms to be aware of so they could give the medicine accordingly.

The snack and mealtime experiences were unhurried and relaxed. Older children were developing their independence as they set up the tables and served their own food. To further promote independence and self-help skills children would benefit from further opportunities to be involved in the preparation of meals and snacks.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children could choose if they wanted to play indoors or outside. Free-flow, independent access to the garden was encouraged with staff consistently available in the area to support play and facilitate this choice. Children used a variety of 'loose parts' materials, which allowed them to be creative and problem solve. They were able to manage risks and challenge themselves through play. Staff understood a risk benefit approach to play and supported children to consider and manage risks in a way that was right for them. This contributed to the development of confidence and self-esteem. Children made good use of the outdoor mud kitchen where they developed their ideas and engaged in imaginative play.

Children had many opportunities to explore open-ended natural materials that promoted their natural curiosity and inquiry. Children used these in creative ways within their play. Staff were aware of the benefits of these resources and used this knowledge to source and provide materials that sparked interest and allowed for multiple possibilities to emerge through play.

Within the baby room, we discussed how the resources and space could be further developed to provide children with cosier areas to play and more free space to move around. The management team acknowledged this area for improvement and on the second day had made some adjustments to the room. The management team agreed they would continue to work with the staff team to make this space as comfortable and interesting as possible for children.

During the inspection, we visited the allotment, which was a short walk from the service. Children were excited to tell us about this space and eager to show us around. Children were learning new skills and exploring the natural world through meaningful and interesting experiences at the allotment. Children enjoyed planting and were learning about how to care for the things that they grew. It was evident that they felt a sense of pride and ownership of the space. Within the allotment there was a variety of interesting spaces and levels, which promoted children's curiosity and inquiry, for example a mud play area and a decked area for stories and other

activities. Children had opportunities to be active as they explored the different areas, transported resources and climbed up the hill to reach the shed and decking areas.

Children were included and active through regular trips to local shops, the library and parks. This allowed them to learn more about the world around them and develop their confidence, for example as they shopped for their snack or explored the local park.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Staff met children's care needs in a kind and supportive way. They knew children well and respected their individual personalities and preferences. Parents commented positively on the relationships staff had developed with them and their children. These relationships helped to foster a welcoming and inclusive ethos.

In some instances, the decisions made around the routine and plan for the day in the baby room conflicted with some children's individual care needs. For example, the timing of a walk impacted on some children's sleep preferences resulting in them becoming unsettled later in the day. The management team agreed to consider this and support staff with this area for improvement.

Arrangements for supporting and monitoring staff practice were in place. Through regular appraisals and team meetings staff were able to share any issues they had and discuss ideas. Where required the management team took action to address issues and support ideas. Staff told us they were well supported by the management team and felt confident to discuss any issues with them. We discussed some ways the service could continue to strengthen and embed their approaches to monitoring and supporting staff practice. For example, the management team was keen to revisit peer support observations and use these as a tool to further develop staff practice.

Staff were developing skills and gaining knowledge through relevant training opportunities, for example, in relation to the environment and the introduction of open-ended materials as this was supporting children to explore and be creative within their play. However, on some occasions staff missed opportunities to extend and challenge children in their learning through the use of effective questioning. Children would benefit from staff developing their skills and confidence in using open-ended, challenging questions in conversations about learning. This would help promote greater levels of depth in learning experiences.

The service followed safer recruitment procedures helping them to safeguard children. Since the last inspection, the service had developed their procedures in relation to ensuring staff were registered with a regulatory

professional body. This meant staff were appropriately registered to work in the service and were supported to adhere to the codes of conduct for their registration.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

There was a friendly and supportive ethos across the service. Parents were kept informed about the developments of the service through regular newsletters. Parents received feedback at the end of the sessions, which allowed them to hear about their child experiences and care. Families were included in the life of the service through regular events, such as the Christmas carol concert.

The management team had a visual presence within the service. They were available to support children, staff and parents throughout the day. The management team provided opportunities for staff to build relationships and develop a shared vision for the service. Staff were clear on their roles and responsibilities and role modelled positive relationships for children. There had been some staffing changes since the last inspection. New members of staff were well supported by the management team, which helped them to develop their confidence and skills as they settled into their new roles.

Quality assurance systems supported the management of the service. For example, the monitoring of children's personal plans was helping to ensure the information remained relevant and meaningful to children's care needs.

The service improvement plan focussed on key priorities and provided clear action points to take forward. For example, children's language acquisition was identified as a priority and was being promoted through the development of resources and relevant staff training. Through discussion we shared ways in which the service could continue to consolidate their approach to self-evaluation and improvement. For example, exploring ways to measure the impact of the improvement work in relation to outcomes for children. The management team were receptive to this discussion. We were confident they would continue to build on the current approaches, which would help to embed a cycle of continuous improvement across the service.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - 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

Recommendation 1

To keep children safe their medical needs must be managed in a safe and effective way. The service should review the procedures for the management of medication in line with best practice guidance.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which states 'I experience high quality care and support because people have the necessary information and resources (HSCS: '4.27).

This recommendation was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The service had reviewed the procedures for the management of medication in line with best practice guidance. Medication was stored, administered and recorded effectively. Within the paperwork used, we discussed an adjustment to the section used to record how many doses of medication were to be given in the day. The management team understood this discussion and on the second day had amended the paperwork. This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 2

Children should be cared for by staff who are registered with an appropriate professional body. The manager should ensure staff are aware of their duty to maintain their registration and the service should have a system in place to monitor all registrations.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which states, 'I am confident that people who support and care for me have been appropriately and safely recruited' (HSCS: 4.24) and '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 recommendation was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

All staff were appropriately registered with a relevant professional body. There was a system for monitoring staff registrations to ensure that staff were registered and remained registered whilst working in the service. There was a policy and procedure in place in the event of any issues and staff were clear on their duty to ensure they were registered and adhered to the codes of conduct relating to their professional registration. This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 3

To promote positive outcomes for children and help enhance their experiences the manager should develop a system for monitoring staff practice so that staff are appropriately supported to develop and reflect on their practice and their work. This should include developing approaches, which promote professional development and focus on improving outcomes for children.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social care Standards which states, '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 recommendation was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Since the last inspection, the service had developed their approach to supporting and monitoring staff practice. Regular appraisals took place and supported staff to consider their strengths, identify areas of development and discuss any ideas or issues they had. Where required the management team took action to support staff and address any issues. Regular team meetings and discussions with the management team further supported staff to develop and reflect on their practice. This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 4

To promote and maintain children's wellbeing and safety the manager and provider should become familiar with their legislative duty in relation to notifying the Care Inspectorate about specific events that may occur within a regulated care service.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standards which state that 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice' (HSCS 4.11) and 'I benefit from different organisations working together and sharing information about me promptly where appropriate, and I understand how my privacy and confidentiality are respected' (HSCS 4.18).

This recommendation was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The management team had familiarised themselves with the Care Inspectorate guidance 'Records that all registered care services (except childminding) must keep and guidance on notification reporting'. They were confident about what to notify the Care Inspectorate of and how they should do this. Since the last inspection,

the service had made notifications to the Care Inspectorate as required. This had ensured that as the regulatory body we were kept up to date about events and changes in the service. This recommendation has been met.

Complaints

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

Enforcement

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

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings								
13 Feb 2019	Unannounced	<table> <tr> <td>Care and support</td> <td>3 - Adequate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment</td> <td>4 - Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staffing</td> <td>3 - Adequate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management and leadership</td> <td>3 - Adequate</td> </tr> </table>	Care and support	3 - Adequate	Environment	4 - Good	Staffing	3 - Adequate	Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
Care and support	3 - Adequate									
Environment	4 - Good									
Staffing	3 - Adequate									
Management and leadership	3 - Adequate									
13 Mar 2018	Unannounced	<table> <tr> <td>Care and support</td> <td>3 - Adequate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment</td> <td>Not assessed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staffing</td> <td>3 - Adequate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management and leadership</td> <td>Not assessed</td> </tr> </table>	Care and support	3 - Adequate	Environment	Not assessed	Staffing	3 - Adequate	Management and leadership	Not assessed
Care and support	3 - Adequate									
Environment	Not assessed									
Staffing	3 - Adequate									
Management and leadership	Not assessed									
10 Dec 2015	Unannounced	<table> <tr> <td>Care and support</td> <td>5 - Very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment</td> <td>5 - Very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staffing</td> <td>5 - Very good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management and leadership</td> <td>5 - Very good</td> </tr> </table>	Care and support	5 - Very good	Environment	5 - Very good	Staffing	5 - Very good	Management and leadership	5 - Very good
Care and support	5 - Very good									
Environment	5 - Very good									
Staffing	5 - Very good									
Management and leadership	5 - Very good									

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