

Great Western Pre-School @ Kingswells Day Care of Children

Kingswells Village Centre
Kingswood Mews
Kingswells
Aberdeen
AB15 8TB

Telephone: 01224 745364

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

20 June 2018

Service provided by:

Lorndale Aberdeen Limited

Service provider number:

SP2013012192

Service no:

CS2013321322

About the service

Great Western Pre-School @ Kingswells has been registered since 29 May 2014.

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of 100 children under 16 years of age. A maximum of 20 of these places may be used to provide an out of school care service. The following room maximums should be adhered to within the overall maximum:

In Room 1 a maximum of 15 children 0 to 2 years

In Room 2 a maximum of 11 children 0 to 2 years

In Room 3 a maximum of 18 children 2 to 3 years

In Room 4 a maximum of 11 children 18 months to 3 years of whom a maximum of 6 to be under 2 years OR a maximum of 12 children 2 to 3 years

In Room 5 a maximum of 18 children 30 months - to not yet attending primary school

In Room 6 a maximum of 26 children 3 - to not yet attending primary school

Any other conditions unique to the service:

2. The care service will operate between the times of 06:00 to 20:00, Monday to Sunday.

The service is located in Kingswells, Aberdeen. It is very close to the primary school and local amenities and has good transport links to the city. There are three large playrooms and a large garden which is used as a fantastic outdoor learning classroom.

The aims of the service included:

- We will provide children with a safe, happy, caring and stimulating environment, in which to develop their individual skills and talents.
- We will deliver learning opportunities for children and parents to come together, enhancing parenting skills and where appropriate accreditation to increase skills to access employment.
- We will welcome children and their families of all races, languages, beliefs and backgrounds and strive to provide all children with positive self-images and values and to help them feel included.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC); Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it Right for Every Child: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included.

What people told us

We spoke with many children during the inspection. They were very engaged in good quality play, some comments included:

"I am making a bracelet."

"I have got some apples."

"Along came a queen and they went off into the rocket ship."

"The queen went into the house."

"Pirates had a fairy wand and got the dragon."

"I can water this."

"I draw Mummy and Daddy."

"Stop, not much more."

"What are these for?"

"I like to play with my best friend."

"I like the puzzles."

"I like everything."

"Red- don't go, orange- get ready, green- we can go."

"Went to Stonehaven."

Twenty-eight parents returned completed questionnaires to us before the inspection. They all stated that these parents were happy and very happy with the service provided. Many comments focused on how they really liked the outdoor environment which is a strength at this service.

We also spoke with three parents during the inspection, some parent comments included:

"I feel very confident that the nursery provides a warm, friendly and stimulating environment for my child."

"Excellent staff. My child is very happy going to nursery. Baby room is spotless, lots of love and attention given to my baby."

"Excellent staff and environment."

"My child enjoys the outdoor activities on offer. I am really happy with the nursery."

"I couldn't be more satisfied, especially as my child has severe allergies and dietary requirements."

"My child thrives daily, happy with staff."

"I cannot thank the staff enough for making it an easy supported transition for myself and child starting nursery. My child loves going."

"I am very pleased with the environment and level of care my child receives."

"We are very pleased with the constant improvement at Great Western Kingswells."

"It is great how they have changed and progressed the outdoor area as this allows children to use imagination in their play."

"I have seen significant advances in the last few years with focus on outdoor play and making different areas within the classrooms."

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 processes. 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	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

The children were provided with a very good quality of care and support. The staff were warm, caring, very enthusiastic and nurturing towards the children. In the baby room there was lots of face-to-face interaction and praise given to the children. Staff were extremely attentive to the needs of the babies and very enthusiastic singing songs and making lunchtime fun. Each playroom was comforting and there was a great learning atmosphere. Staff knew children well and were aware of their needs, additional support required and interests. They took time to respond and help them to join in with activities. The service kept very detailed care plans. These provided clear guidance on the needs of each child. Staff effectively used this information to ensure each child's needs were met and they were kept safe.

Effective systems were in place to ensure medication was safely administered and children's health needs were met. Regular audits of the medication forms ensured they reflected children's current needs. Robust systems were in place regarding children with food allergies and we saw these practices in place during meal times.

The service provided a bright and stimulating learning environment for children to play and explore. It had well-defined, meaningful areas for play as well as inviting and varied activities helping the children to achieve in their learning and promote children's choice. The outdoor learning environment was sector leading with innovative ideas to encourage investigation and creativity for children to reach their learning potential. Children were also engaged in high quality play through problem solving with their peers and asking higher order questions amongst themselves. Hand washing facilities were available to the children outdoors and fresh fruit and water were available at all times contributing to keeping them healthy.

Staff were friendly and welcoming to parents and children. This supported children to feel happy, secure and confident. They were also motivated, reflected on their practice and used observations very well to make changes to the playrooms and outdoor space to extend children's learning. We observed good communication between staff and parents enabling them to meet children's changing needs. Parents had also fed back that they were very pleased with the quality of staff.

The children were given many opportunities to be responsible and independent. Children's views were respected. Children had been involved and included in creating what they wanted to do through the effective use of mind

maps. The children evaluated activities they had done and what improvements could be made. These were used by staff to plan activities and experiences. Children's achievements were celebrated with work displayed on the wall helping to boost confidence and self esteem. Children's learning journeys were up to date, contained meaningful and relevant observations, showing children's interests.

The service was very good at gaining parents' views and evaluating this feedback to identify improvements to be made within the service. The service used its daily evaluations to form a plan for staff meetings and development, and to plan next steps for children. Development plans were outcome focused identifying children's needs. A comprehensive management system was in place that monitored staff training, maintenance of the nursery and children's learning.

The service was performing very well. Staff and management go over and above their duty to ensure positive outcomes for children are being met. They continually seek ways to improve and employ fresh new ideas into the nursery to benefit the children.

What the service could do better

During the inspection we noted that on one occasion emergency medication was not in place for a short period of time causing a potential adverse outcome to the child. The provider took this matter very seriously and very quickly installed extra procedures and risk assessments across their organisation to prevent a situation of this nature occurring again. The service demonstrated how they would have responded should an emergency have occurred to ensure the child was kept safe during this time.

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	Gradings
7 Nov 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed
22 Apr 2015	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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