Monifieth Out Of School Care Club (Grange)
Day Care of Children

Grange Primary School
Grange Road
Monifieth
Dundee
DD5 4LU

Telephone: 01382 533 996

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
28 June 2023

Service provided by:
Monifieth Out of School Care Club

Service provider number:
SP2003000576

Service no:
CS2003002882

HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

About the service

Monifieth Out Of School Care Club (Grange) is a registered daycare of children service and delivered within Monifieth, Angus. The setting is delivered from a dedicated space within Grange Primary School.

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 50 children at any one time of whom no more than 5 are aged from 4 years to an age to attend primary school full time.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place between Monday 26 June and Wednesday 28 June 2023 between 15:30 and 18:00. One inspector carried out the inspection from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration and complaints information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered throughout the inspection year.

To inform our evaluation we:

- spoke with children using the service;
- received feedback from 18 families;
- received feedback from seven staff;
- spoke with staff and management;
- observed practice and children's experiences; and
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Interactions between children and staff were respectful, supporting children to feel valued, loved and safe.
- Children could lead their play and participate in a range of stimulating activities.
- Staff had created meal and snack times that supported children to become independent, develop life skills and social time with their friends.
- The team worked well together and had a clear focus for improving the service.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care, play and learning? 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Children were happy, secure and settled in the environment. They directed and led their own play and could choose what toys and resources that interested them. Staff told us "We value the children and always let the children lead their play and activities" and children shared with us they enjoyed attending the setting.

Staff talked about the very good connections they had with children and their families, which helped with the sharing and gathering of information to support and meet children's individual needs. Children experienced kind and nurturing interactions from staff which helped them to feel safe and secure. Parents told us:

"The staff know my children well and over the years have grown to know us as a family too".

"The staff are fabulous and care for the children".

"Staff seem to genuinely care about the children".

Children's individual needs, personalities and interests were considered. Personal plans were in place and included children's 'all about me' section. Plans contained information which had been reviewed and updated. We encouraged the service to continue with the positive steps taken to celebrate achievements and build on the inclusion of the wellbeing indicators, which are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included (SHANARRI). This would further help staff to deliver tailored care to children.

Children who required medication had relevant paperwork in place and medication was stored safely and securely. This supported staff to understand children's health needs.

Children were safe and protected from harm. Staff fully understood the role they played in keeping children safe and protected from harm and had undertaken child protection training to support knowledge and understanding.

Quality indicator 1.3: Play and learning.

Children were happy and fully engaged in a variety of experiences both indoors and outdoors. The regular access to the outdoors supported children to be physically active, participate in well supervised risk taking and have access to fresh air. Staff were observed extending play and learning using open-ended questions and participating in children's play. Parents told us:

"Children and staff interact together and learn new skills while building on their communication and confidence".

"Activities on offer suit a range of children's ages. Staff are very approachable, and I feel that they provide a nurturing environment".

There were opportunities and experiences which encouraged children's critical thinking, imagination and creativity. Literacy and numeracy were included through organised fun activities. For example, children participated in string painting during the inspection and meaningful natural conversations took place between staff and children around, length, height, size and measurement. Floor books evidenced children's thoughts, ideas and the planning of activities. We discussed how next steps, dates and parental input could be strengthened to support progression and enhance floor book logs. Children told us:

"We get good choices and we get to make suggestions"

Staff told us:

"We use information from our daily conversations with the children to add their wishes to our daily planning, this ensures we are meeting their needs".

"We encourage the children to voice what activities they would like to see at club and what equipment they would like in club".

Staff valued a child's right to play. Children's rights were promoted and children had opportunities to develop a range of skills through their play experiences.

How good is our setting? 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator 2.2: children experience high quality facilities.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

The welcoming spaces allowed children to move freely and explore their surroundings. Children benefitted from access to the enclosed playground and the spaces took account for rest and relaxation. For example, tents, rugs, and large bean bags supported children with accessible and comfortable spaces. There was plenty of natural light, ventilation and children had areas to meet their needs, through spaces to play alone or in groups. The service benefitted from having regular access to the school gym hall, which meant children had opportunities to engage in physical exercise.

Children's artwork and photos were displayed, which encouraged ownership of the environment, and provided children with opportunities to revisit activities, experiences and learning. The children's experiences and play were supported through resources that were of good quality and age and stage appropriate. These included books, puzzles, sports equipment, dolls, arts and crafts and a range of computer devices.

Children's safety was carefully considered across the setting. For example, daily checks and risk assessments were in place. A system for reporting accidents and incidents was also in place and had been audited to help ensure a safe environment for children. All parents told us they strongly agreed or agreed their child was safe whilst in the setting.

Children's personal information was stored securely, and sensitive information was shared only with those who needed the information to meet children's health and wellbeing needs. This ensured the service complied with current best practice guidance.

How good is our leadership? 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

We found that the team engaged very well during the inspection process, demonstrating an ethos of continuous improvement. The vision and aims of the service were currently under development. The manager told us their plans were to include the children and families in the review process. We agreed that this would further promote and support a shared vision. A staff member shared our "club works hard to continuously improve our setting".

The views of families were taken into consideration and parents told us "The club responded to feedback well". And "Leaders are always keen to take on parents' views in terms of improving the service". The tools used to capture views and suggestions included children's mind maps, Microsoft Survey forms and 'you said, we did' boards. This allowed families to contribute towards the development of the service.

The manager was visible and committed to ensuring the staff team felt fully involved in developments. Regular team meetings took place, tasks and responsibilities were clear and followed and staff had opportunities to meet the provider. This resulted in a strong working relationship and a supportive environment for children and their families.

Staff told us:

"I know if I need clarification on anything, I can ask questions anytime to my manager and seniors".

"Our leadership in our setting is fantastic. My manager is always happy to answer questions and give good guidance".

A quality assurance calendar was in place to support ongoing improvement within the service. The service improvement plans identified focus areas for improvement across the service and was a working document. The approach and processes were having a positive impact on improving and contributed towards a cycle of reflection and improvement within the service.

A parent told us "The staff are constantly seeking to make changes and improvements as required".

How good is our staff team? 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator 4.3: Staff deployment.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Children benefitted from minimal staff to child ratios being met and the staff were effectively deployed across areas of the setting. The management of staff work patterns supported the care of children. This helped children experience continuity of care from a staff team that were familiar to them. All staff spoke very positively about the relationships and team working ethos.

Staff told us:

"We work extremely well together and I know this has a positive impact on the club's ethos".

"We have a good mix of ages and experience in our team which really benefits our setting and how we run as a club".

"We are a very positive and friendly team".

The team were supported to understand their role and responsibilities through attending regular team meetings and engaging in one to one appraisal meetings. The manager should continue with plans to support and monitor staff practice more formally through recorded observations. This would further enhance staff practice and support tailored professional development.

Parents told us:

"As a parent for many years, I feel confident to say that the care that the staff provide is outstanding".

"The staff are amazing, always friendly, easy to talk to and have great relationships with the kids".

"Staff are responsive and caring, the children love MOOSC".

Complaints

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

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very Good

How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good

How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good

How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.3 Staff deployment	5 - Very Good

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