GO Kids Comely Park
Day Care of Children

Comely Park Primary School
Cow Wynd
Falkirk
FK1 1PZ

Telephone: 07762082764

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
25 November 2025

Service provided by:
Great Oaks Kids Club (G.O. Kids)

Service provider number:
SP2003002658

Service no:
CS2003011431

About the service

Go Kids Comely Park operates a school-aged childcare service from Comely Park Primary School in Falkirk. Fifty-six children can be cared for at any one time and the service offers a breakfast club, after school club as well as childcare during Falkirk Council school holidays.

Children have access to the large gym hall in the school and the outdoor space, including an Astroturf pitch for three days of the week. Two toilets are situated close to the gym hall. There are amenities close by such as shops, parks and transport links.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 24 November 2025 between 14:45 and 17:45 and 25 November 2025 between 14:45 and 17:30. This inspection was carried out by one inspector 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:

- spent time with four children using the service and spoke with three families
- received 24 completed questionnaires from families
- spoke with five staff and the management team
- assessed core assurances, including the physical environment
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents.

As part of our inspections, we assess core assurances. Core assurances are checks we make to ensure children are safe, the physical environment is well maintained and that a service is operating legally. At the time of this inspection, no improvements were identified relating to core assurances.

During this inspection we gathered specific information to help us understand more about how services support children's safety, wellbeing and engagement in their play and learning. This included reviewing the following aspects:

- staff deployment
- safety of the physical environment, indoors and outdoors
- the quality of personal plans and how well children's needs are being met
- children's engagement with the experiences provided in their setting.

This information will be anonymised and analysed to help inform our future work with services.

Key messages

• Families reported feeling listened to and that their views were respected, which supported positive relationships and partnership working.

• We are aware that the service are currently reviewing the vision, values and aims of the service at present.

• The environment had clearly defined areas for different types of play, with resources accessible to promote choice and independence.

• Children were observed to be happy, settled and calm within the service, showing a strong sense of security and trust in staff.

• There was a warm and welcoming atmosphere where children experienced a strong sense of fun and belonging, with laughter evident throughout the setting.

• Relationships throughout the service between children and staff, and children and their friends were respectful and kind.

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

Leadership	4 - Good
Children thrive and develop in quality spaces	5 - Very Good
Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good

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

Leadership 4 - Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as **good,** where there were important strengths within the setting's work and some aspects which could benefit from improvement.

Quality indicator: Leadership and management of staff and resources.

The service has a clear vision, values, and aims that were observed in practice. These are currently being reviewed with contributions from families, children, and the staff team.

Consultation with children meaningfully shaped the environment, with varied areas set up that children were eager to investigate. Staff listened and responded appropriately to children's preferences, for example, recognising children's enjoyment of ball games and arranging access to the outdoor pitch, which resulted in high levels of excitement and engagement.

The service gathered parents' views through questionnaires and regular informal conversations. Families reported feeling listened to and that their views were respected, which supported positive relationships and partnership working. Families shared "Both child and I regularly take part in user surveys. Parents are also given opportunity to join the board" and "I am on the committee of go kids so I feel involved in any major decision making".

Self evaluation using the new "A Quality Improvement Framework for early learning and childcare sectors: School age childcare" was at an early stage, the service should continue to develop and embed this approach to drive and evidence continuous improvement.

Improvement planning was beginning to contribute to the service's ongoing development. The leadership team demonstrated a clear commitment to promoting children's wellbeing and had introduced meaningful changes. These included reviewing the environment to create spaces for rest and relaxation, implementing strategies to support emotional regulation, and providing sensory resources. This reflected a proactive approach to continuous improvement, with a strong focus on meeting individual needs and enhancing outcomes for children.

The management team were committed to continuous improvement. The service was a member of the Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN) and regularly accessed best practice guidance, which was discussed with staff during regular meetings to support ongoing development. The management team led daily informal briefings to share key information and reflect on sessions, including observations and children's interests. This approach promoted consistent practice, informed planning, and ensured children's experiences were responsive and engaging.

Effective quality assurance processes supported continuous improvement. Routine audits of personal plans, accidents, and medication were undertaken, with findings shared and acted upon. Regular team meetings enabled staff to reflect on sessions and identify improvements, including enhancing play and learning through consultation with children. To sustain progress, the service should further strengthen systems for auditing the environment and monitoring staff practice.

Children thrive and develop in quality spaces 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as **very good**.

Children experience high quality spaces.

Children experienced high quality spaces that were well planned, safe, and stimulating. The environment had clearly defined areas for different types of play, with resources accessible which promoted choice and independence. Consultation with children informed experiences on offer. During the inspection, children were eager to investigate areas and engaged in drawing, junk modelling, playdough, and dancing.

Staff promoted effective use of outdoor space and responded appropriately to children's interests, for example, recognising their enjoyment of investigation and creativity, this was further enhanced with resources for junk modelling and making playdough monsters, which sustained high levels of engagement while maintaining safety.

Spaces were available for children to rest and relax. All areas were clean and organised, contributing to children's wellbeing. The flooring in the hall had been replaced, creating a clean, safe, and well-maintained area for children to use. Families shared "Staff care about emotional wellbeing of children in their care" and "Security is good. My children always appears happy and feel safe".

Children had daily access to the outdoor spaces, including the playground and a large Astroturf pitch. During the inspection, children used scooters in designated areas and participated in ball games such as football, which promoted gross motor development, active play, and peer interaction. In darker conditions, children used torches to explore the outdoor environment under staff supervision, extending curiosity and problem solving. We observed children approaching staff to initiate games, including tig, and staff joined in appropriately. This meant that positive relationships and contributed to a safe, stimulating play environment.

Maintenance issues were identified, reported promptly, and recorded, with evidence of follow-up and resolution. Risk assessments focused on reducing hazards while recognising the benefits of experiences, supporting positive risk-taking and learning. Recent audits of accident and incident forms enabled the team to review experiences collectively, leading to improvements in practice. This has contributed to a reduction in the frequency of accidents and incidents. As a result, the physical environment supported children to feel safe and secure while they experienced play and learning centred on their needs and interests.

Children play and learn 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as **very good.**

Quality indicator: Playing, learning and developing.

Children were observed to be happy, settled and calm within the service, showing a strong sense of security and trust in staff. They engaged meaningfully in a wide range of experiences that reflected their interests while offering appropriate challenge. Staff provided opportunities for children to lead their own play and

learning, for example, playing a game, junk modelling or choosing preferred activities like Lego building and playing pool. Adults responded sensitively to children's cues, knowing when to engage and when to allow space. This approach supported children's resilience and confidence.

Planning was supported through a floor book where children were encouraged to share their ideas each week. This showed that staff listened to children and valued their choices, promoting a sense of ownership and independence. Mind maps and comments from discussions with children were used to capture their interests and inform planning. Families told us "I think the range of activities is fantastic. There are toys, crafts, sports and more" and "My children have the chance to mix with all age groups, they love to play ball games with the older ones too which I think is lovely".

Children's right to play was at the heart of the service. Play was uninterrupted, promoting children to have ownership of their session. This contributed to high levels of engagement, enjoyment, and positive connections with staff and peers. A family shared "Just to call out how wonderful the staff are. They are all great [staff] in particular go over and above on a daily basis to create a fantastic place for my [child]. They now asks to be picked up later".

There was a warm and welcoming atmosphere where children experienced a strong sense of fun and belonging, with laughter evident throughout the setting. Families told us that children often did not want to leave because they were enjoying positive interactions and play with their peers. Parents valued the wide range of opportunities available and recognised that staff respected what mattered most to each child. Play and learning experiences were regularly shared with families, promoting strong connections between home and the service. Children were actively involved in their own planning, identifying personal achievements and contributing ideas for what they wanted to do next. As a result, children were empowered, confident, and experienced high-quality outcomes that supported their learning and wellbeing.

Staff demonstrated a strong understanding of how outdoor spaces support children's regulation and wellbeing. During the inspection we observed children confidently engaging in varied play, exploring with torches and riding scooters. Staff had thoughtfully set up defined play areas, maintained active supervision, and joined in play to extend children's experiences. On the second inspection day, staff took children to the adjacent astro pitch for ball games, offering broader space and physical challenge. This contributed to children feeling safe, active, and supported in their learning and development.

Children are supported to achieve — 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as **very good.**

Quality indicator: Nurturing care and support.

Children were cared for by a kind, caring and dedicated staff team, who were focussed on their needs and knew children as individuals. Staff used a range of communication strategies suited to children's individual needs and supported health care needs with dignity and respect.

Parents valued the care their children received and commented positively about this. Some comments included "Staff are extremely approachable and friendly. It is good there is not a high staff turnover so both I and my [child] get to know all the staff" and "the staff are so warm and welcoming, they honestly make my [child] feel so comfortable, it took them a long time to settle into go kids but they love it every time they go now. It positively impacts their well being".

Relationships throughout the service between children, staff and their friends were respectful and kind. Staff had created some spaces for children where they could play together. Older children supported some of the younger children, especially during activities, for example, drawing and making bracelets. Their support helped make the setting feel respectful and inclusive for everyone.

Staff created warm, inclusive interactions by engaging at children's level and responding promptly with comfort, praise, and encouragement. Children's wellbeing was prioritised, with proactive actions such as introducing play boxes to support positive transitions and emotional regulation. Staff also provided tailored support for children who needed additional help to settle. Each child had a personal plan containing key information to promote development and wellbeing. Children contributed to personal profiles that celebrated achievements and identified clear next steps, supported by staff praise and recognition. As a result, children felt safe, respected, and included, and were supported to progress confidently in their development.

Additional personal plans in place for children with medical, allergies or additional support. They clearly outlined their health, welfare, and safety needs and steps to ensure their care needs were being met. This ensured a consistent and well informed approach across the staff team, promoting children's safety and wellbeing while meeting their individual needs effectively.

Embedded routines were well established and effectively promoted children's safety and independence. Children understood what to expect, creating a strong sense of security. Snack times were sociable and relaxed, with children confidently self-serving food and clearing plates, fostering responsibility. Almost all children chose to have snack before engaging in play, and they could revisit the snack area for fruit and vegetables and to stay hydrated throughout the session. This meant children felt safe, healthy, and respected, while developing independence and responsibility.

What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

Areas for improvement

Previous area for improvement 1

To promote and encourage children's curiosity, creativity, problem solving and imaginative skills, the provider should improve the play spaces available both indoors and outdoors. This should include but is not limited to:

(a) providing suitable resources and materials to effectively engage and challenge children's play, learning and interests.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "I am able to access a range of good quality equipment and furnishings to meet my needs, wishes and choices" (HSCS 5.23).

This area for improvement was made on 16 January 2024.

Action taken since then

The service has developed defined play spaces that promote children's curiosity, creativity, and imagination. These areas have empower children to be independent and lead their own learning and play. A wide variety of resources and materials were available, effectively engaging and challenging children's interests and supporting their learning and development.

This area for improvement has been met.

Previous area for improvement 2

To consistently maintain children's health and wellbeing, the provider should ensure the setting and equipment is safe, clean and well-maintained, with consideration to their lease agreement with the local authority.

This should include, but is not limited to:

(a) repairing or replacing damaged flooring
(b) staff keeping toilets clean at all times, including when deep cleaning arrangements are needed
(c) staff keeping air conditioning and ventilation units clean
(d) staff implementing robust infection prevention and control cleaning practices, especially at mealtimes.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that "I experience an environment that is well looked after with clean, tidy and well-maintained premises, furnishings and equipment" (HSCS 5.22).

This is to ensure staff skills and knowledge is consistent with the Health Protection Scotland document, 'Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings).'

This area for improvement was made on 16 January 2024.

Action taken since then

The service has benefited from new flooring in the areas children access, creating a cleaner and safer environment. Staff have effectively implemented infection prevention and control practices, including regular handwashing and cleaning of surfaces during snack times. Toilets were monitored and kept clean throughout sessions. These measures ensured children experienced a safe, hygienic environment that supported their health and wellbeing.

This area for improvement 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.

Detailed evaluations

Leadership	4 - Good
Leadership and management of staff and resources	4 - Good

Children thrive and develop in quality spaces	5 - Very Good
Children experience high quality spaces	5 - Very Good

Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Playing, learning and developing	5 - Very Good

Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good
Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good

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