Clermiston After School Club
Day Care of Children

Clermiston Primary School
18 Parkgrove Place
Edinburgh
EH4 7NP

Telephone: 07814 053 522

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
17 January 2020

Service provided by:
Clermiston Asc Committee

Service provider number:
SP2003002825

Service no:
CS2003011856

HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

About the service

Clermiston After School Club is registered to provide a day care of children service. The service may be provided a maximum of 30 children at any one time of primary school age. The service operates from 2.30pm - 5.30pm Monday - Thursday and 12.30pm - 5.00pm on a Friday, during term times only.

The club is situated in Clermiston Primary School which is in the north west of Edinburgh. They have use of a club room, gym hall and school playground which includes a trim trail and a wildlife garden.

We carried out an unannounced inspection of Clermiston After School Club on 16 January 2020. We returned on 17 January 2020 to complete the inspection and give feedback. At this inspection we spoke with several children and one parent.

The club aims and objectives include:
- "To provide a top quality service in a safe and caring environment taking into the varying needs of all parents and children.
- The club will employ competent and confident staff, whom have been appropriately vetted
- The club will provide a balanced range of activities, taking into account of ages, development needs and interests of children.
- The club will operate a self-evaluation scheme as a means of ensuring continuous improvement and will involve all staff and users in this process.
- The club will encourage parents and children to contribute to the life and work of the club and will promote positive behaviour at all times.
- The club will promote and respect the independence of all parents and children and give them choice in how the service is provided".

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 the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

There were 29 children present in the club on the first day of our visit and 12 children present on the second day of our inspection. Children were very busy and engaged in play throughout the inspection. They told us that they enjoyed coming to the club and spoke positively about the staff, we could see that there was very good relationships with staff and they were respected as individuals.

We spoke with a parent during the inspection and they spoke highly of their child's settling in process which supported their child's transition. They also commented positively about the free flow access to the gym and outdoors as well as the very good communication they received from the club staff. We asked parents for feedback through Care Standard Questionnaires; we received nine completed forms and found these to be very positive.

Some of the comments from parents included;

"The staff create a safe, caring, fun and nurturing environment for children of all ages. It's excellent."

"My child is confident and happy in the service. The staff know them well and are good at ensuring any friendship issues are nipped in the bud. They use the hall and the outdoor space to let the children burn off steam and my child really enjoys this."

"My son enjoys the time in the afternoon to be creative and play with his age friends."

"The after school environment provided has been superior to other after school provisions we have experienced."

"A wonderful after school club where my children do not want to leave at pick up time!"

"Staff are very engaging and provide a nice atmosphere for my daughter. It is structured but yet relaxed enough to allow her not to feel like she is in school."

"Would be helpful if staff properly introduce themselves and the roles/service/service limitations. Also having space to meet and chat to parents independent of club times. Overall my child is happy." We discussed this with the manager who agreed to review how information was shared with parents about staff roles and service delivery.

All parents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "Overall I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their improvement plan information and relevant quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their identified priorities for development and how they were evaluating 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	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children were happy, engaged and having fun throughout the inspection. The service provided a flexible approach to settling in and attendance to support the needs of individual children and their families.

Staff were knowledgeable and responsive to the needs of children and engaged with them when this was wanted or needed. Children were encouraged to be respectful of each other and had developed club rules, staff sensitively supported children to resolve conflict. Chronologies were in place to ensure all children received the right support at the right time. Staff shared their understanding about who they could contact should they have a concern about a child's welfare or safety.

Snack time was structured into the afternoon to allow a social and unhurried experience where staff sat with children to find out more about their day. There was a range of healthy choices for snack and children were further supported to be healthy through hand washing as needed.

Staff gathered feedback from children and families through a range of methods which included the 'Super Cool After School Committee', consultation through questionnaires and through informal meetings recording children's thoughts and ideas. Staff had a clear action plan detailing how this feedback influenced improvement planning in the service, this gave children ownership of the club as they were respected and listened to.

Children were appropriately challenged and allowed to lead their own play experiences. We saw staff join in a game where older children were leading the group to learn something new.

Staff are motivated and enthusiastic in their roles and meet regularly to ensure continuity of care and plan for club improvement. The staff communicate and work well together which creates a positive relaxed environment for children.

What the service could do better

We discussed the need for the service to evaluate the resources provision to include more natural and open ended materials both indoors and outdoors. The team had recently attended loose parts training so were motivated to take this feedback as one of the club improvement plan priorities. Open ended resources promote children's creativity, imagination and problem solving skills.

The service has a robust action plan in place recording how feedback was gathered and action taken following staff meetings. To ensure that the service has a clear improvement journey we discussed with staff about outlining key priorities and evaluations based on GIRFEC and best practice guidance to promote reflective practice and record the impact of changes on outcomes for children.

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.

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

The provider should develop basic records of achievement for children which should also identify next steps. This is to support staff in monitoring their development and continue to develop the service to best meet children's needs and interests.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 5 - Quality of experience.

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The service had introduced a chronology included in all children's personal plans. These were reviewed and updated as necessary.

This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 2

The provider should ensure all care plan information held including medical information is reviewed whenever the provider is requested to do so by the service user or if there is any significant change in a child's health, welfare or safety needs and at least once in every six month period.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 14: Well Managed Service.

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The service has introduced a chronology which was reviewed regularly by staff and clearly detailed children's needs and how the staff were supporting children. We discussed with the manager about ensuring a consistent 6 monthly review of children's personal plans.

This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 3

The provider should review the medication forms to ensure that parents sign to confirm they have given the first ever dose and there have been no adverse effects. To is to support the continued wellbeing of the child.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 3 - Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The provider had changed the medication forms to include a statement for parents to confirm that children had been given the first ever dose with no adverse effects.

This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 4

The provider should ensure that an action plan for the year is developed which includes areas for development / improvement identified by them. this should identify who is responsible for auctioning an item and a timescale. the action plan should be evaluated throughout the year.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. standard 14 - A well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The service had a detailed action plan in place which took into account feedback and consultation with staff, children and parents. Regular staff meetings demonstrated that this action plan was reviewed regularly by staff. We discussed with the staff team how they can further enhance this process. We have detailed this in the section 'What the service could do better'.

This recommendation has been met.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
16 Sep 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good Not assessed Not assessed 4 - Good
11 Jun 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
21 Jun 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
22 Jun 2011	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good 2 - Weak
21 May 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate
8 Sep 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate 2 - Weak
18 Nov 2008	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	2 - Weak 2 - Weak 1 - Unsatisfactory 2 - Weak

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
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