Campie After School Club
Day Care of Children

3 Stoneyhill Farm Road
Musselburgh
EH21 6QS

Telephone: 01316 651 748

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
6 October 2023

Service provided by:
Campie After School Club

Service provider number:
SP2003002902

Service no:
CS2003011998

About the service

Campie After School Club is run by a voluntary committee. The service is registered with the Care Inspectorate to provide a care service to a maximum of 62 primary school aged children.

The club is situated within the grounds of Campie Primary School, in a residential area of Musselburgh, East Lothian and is close to local transport links, shops and community services.

The accommodation comprises of four playrooms. There is a kitchen area within one of the playrooms. There are two cloakroom areas and toilets located within various areas of the club. The club have direct access to the large playground which includes a climbing area and additional picnic style seating. The service operates Monday to Thursday 2:50 to 17:45 and Friday 12:20 to 16:30. The service also includes a breakfast club which runs Monday to Friday, 7:50 to 9:00.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection that took place on 28 September 2023 between 15:00 and 18:15. We returned to the service on 29 September 2023 between 12:30 and 18.30. The inspection was carried out by an inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

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

To inform our evaluations we:

- spoke with nine children and observed children using the service
- spoke with four parents and received written feedback from 21 families
- spoke with staff and the management team
- observed practice and children's routines and experiences
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children were relaxed, engaged in play and have a clear sense of belonging in the setting.
- Staff interactions with children were kind, caring and nurturing.
- The premises provided a welcoming and spacious space to play.
- Staff are flexible and support each other to work as a team to benefit children.
- Quality assurance processes should be formalised.

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?	4 - Good
How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
How good is our staff team?	4 - 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

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.

Quality Indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support

Children were welcomed and greeted warmly by staff as they entered the club. Staff held conversations with children about their day at school. Children were relaxed and familiar with routines as they arrived. For example, they knew to hang up their belongings, and wash their hands in preparation for having snack.

The club gathered information about each child when they started. This information supported staff to ensure children's health and wellbeing needs were met. Management and staff had been involved in developing detailed care plans and individual risk assessments for children who required additional support. Staff knew the children well and were aware of their individual personalities, needs and interests. Key staff supported individual children however, all staff were aware of the strategies to work with the children and provide support. Staff were sensitive and skilled when responding to children's individual care. They were responsive when children needed extra help and support. As a result children's overall wellbeing is supported.

Parents told us, "The care and attention the staff give to each child is based on their individual needs. Staff know the children well and so can tell when they might be out of sorts and work with them to understand the issue and help the child resolve it, keeping parents informed", and "The staff are wonderful! They are caring, sensitive to the needs of my children and incredibly supportive. My children find it fun and relaxing, and they know what the boundaries are."

Staff used praise and encouragement to support children in a meaningful way and to create an inclusive environment. Children had developed positive relationships with their peers. We saw children exchanging ideas, problem solving and working together. Children told us, "There are lots of other children to play with", "I have lots of friends here", "I like the staff - they are kind and caring", "The staff are nice and really kind to you", "They look after us - and they are all fun." This demonstrated that children felt included, and they mattered in the setting.

Mealtimes were a social experience, where children could choose to sit with their friends. Children and staff engaged in conversations and took the opportunity to share news. Children participated in the planning and preparation of the Friday snack, as they had more time to be involved. Children spoke about 'having good snacks and water being available to them throughout the session.'

Quality Indicator 1.3: Play and learning

Effective procedures were in place to support children's freedom of choice. As a result, children made informed choices and engaged well in their play. They moved freely from indoors to outdoors throughout the session leading their play and learning. The procedure for this was well planned and safe, as staff continued to carry out head counts. This helped keep children safe as they explored the environment.

The club had considered improvement priorities since the last inspection and had worked together with children to develop these. For example, children had their 'say on play', as they helped to develop the club's Play policy along with staff. As a result, children had the opportunity to be involved and this supported children's participation in decision making. In addition, parents had been asked for ideas and suggestions for play ideas.

Children were able to influence the programme and resources as we saw the experiences reflected their interest and preferences. This supported children's agency, as they contributed and made decisions that influenced their play and learning. Outdoor play was popular with the children, they enjoyed making hammocks, building dens and loose parts play. Children had fun and were challenged in their play. Children told us, "We have a good time, there is loads of stuff to play with and a range of nice books.", "We have fun, we play games, loom bands, I like making necklaces and playing with skipping ropes", and "It's kind of good, we go outside and play football, tennis, hockey, and with loose parts."

Parents shared, "I think the club accommodates for all ages and abilities very well with a wide range of activities, games etc", "My child always enjoys their sessions and enjoys learning new things there also", and "I wish they didn't have access to a games console."

Children had opportunities to be involved in loose parts play within the playground. They engaged in this open-ended play on their own and with their peers, this presented children with numerous opportunities to develop skills, such as, science and maths. They worked well together problem solving and taking risks. Staff had a good understanding of how to promote risky play without putting children in danger. This developed children's physical skills and helped to teach them about their own limits, and how to deal with risks in the future.

The club had adopted a planter at the local Harbour and encouraged children and families to be involved in the care and upkeep of the planter. For example, families engaged in planting, tidying the planter, and adding stones and shells. This supported children to build relationships and make connections within the community.

How good is our setting? 4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality Indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

Children benefited from a spacious, well-ventilated environment with plenty of natural light. The layout of the playrooms were arranged to provide a variety of areas for children to enjoy diverse types of play, with space for floor play and use of tables. However, work needed to continue to ensure that play experiences were set up in all playrooms for children arriving at the club. This would provide children with greater opportunities to make choices about how they spent their time.

Children had opportunities to relax and have quiet times in a comfortable area. Older children used the quiet areas to sit and chat, read books and comics. Occasionally younger children slept while attending the club and staff prepared an area for them. We asked the manager to look at ways to support the children by providing a cosy and comfortable space to sleep, where the child would not be disturbed.

To keep children safe there was security lighting, a camera, and a door security system in place to ensure members of the public could not access the building independently. The setting and equipment were clean, safe, and well-maintained. Risk assessments and infection control procedures had been reviewed and updated to minimise the potential for the spread of infection and to maintain children's safety.

In our questionnaire, all parents strongly agreed or agreed, that the setting was well furnished, comfortable, and homely. Parents told us, "I have observed that the setting is always well maintained, clean and that staff always appear to be aware of health and safety including any risk factors.", "A brilliant space with lots on offer." and " Really homely, spacious with lots of different areas designated for different activities."

Effective systems such as registers were used to manage children's movements within the club. Staff were observed to do regular headcounts meaning they were alert to how many children were present. Safety checks and effective communication by staff meant that children were always accounted for. This promoted children's safety and wellbeing. Some children from primary four and above were able to sign themselves out of the club and make their own way home. For children's safety, we would encourage management to consider and review the systems in place for children leaving the setting.

The club had direct access to the large outdoor playground which encouraged children to be active and enjoy time in fresh air. The area included a climbing area and picnic style seating. We saw children having fun outdoors playing with their friends, making hammocks, dens, playing with balls and using the large physical equipment. Parents shared, "Excellent, spacious area, both inside and outside areas to play in." and "A brilliant space with lots on offer."

How good is our leadership? 4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality Indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well

The manager and the staff team promoted a welcoming ethos. This was evident in the kind interactions, positive relationships, and the club's spirit of inclusion. This created a sense of belonging for children and helped them feel safe and respected.

Communication with parents was good. Staff engaged in conversation with parents as they collected their children. Email updates, newsletters and the club's website were used to update and include parents. A parent told us, "The play leader and staff keep us all updated with newsletters and emails. They ask for our input and feedback and they tackle issues as they arise, for example, time limits for tv, gaming etc."

Management and staff had recently involved the children in developing the club's Play policy and loose parts play. They continued to look at innovative ways to involve children for them to feel that their opinion mattered. Most children said they enjoyed attending the service and found the activities fun. During the inspection, some children shared what they thought the service could do better. For example, they would like more board games and chess.

Most parents were happy with the service provided and shared this with us through feedback. One parent said, "The whole team are clearly involved in the setting. It appears very well managed and run." However, a few parents felt improvements could be made by increasing capacity including the provision of holiday care, parents being able to identify staff and know their names and being able to visit the service with their child.

During our visit parents had limited access to the club as staff met them at the door. The service should review the procedures for parents to access the club, this would support parents to be more aware of management and staff who are caring for their children.

The service had a system in place for recording accidents and incidents. There were a number of accidents recorded which had involved children using the hammock outdoors. We suggested as part of quality assurance systems, the manager should review accidents and incidents, and record any action necessary. The manager should develop a risk assessment to support children's safety in this area of play.

The club had considered improvement priorities since the last inspection. For example, they had developed personal plans for children with additional support needs, reviewed the club's play policy and the use of TV and gaming within the service. However, formal quality assurance systems were still in the initial stages of being developed. To ensure consistently positive outcomes for children, quality assurance processes should be further developed and embedded to ensure all aspects of practice are effectively monitored **(see area for improvement 1).**

Areas for improvement

1.
To ensure consistently positive outcomes for children, quality assurance processes should be further developed and embedded to ensure all aspects of practice are effectively monitored. The manager should develop a formalised approach to quality assurance processes. For example, developing a quality assurance calendar to help management reflect, evaluate, and consider how to maintain a high-quality service. These should be evidenced based, identify areas for improvements and have clear plans to develop the service and further improve outcomes for children.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes' (HSCS 4.19).

How good is our staff team? 4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Quality Indicator 4.3: Staff deployment

The service was appropriately staffed across the days we visited, this helped to support children's safety and wellbeing. A detailed rota allowed the management team to identify any gaps, such as, staff absences ahead of time and make appropriate staffing provision for the care and welfare of children.

The staff team was consistent, and this provided continuity of care for children and families.
Staff recognised when they needed to move around in different areas of the club to support the team and good outcomes for children. They communicated well with each other when leaving spaces, which ensured that children's safety was maintained. They were flexible in their approach to meet children's needs, follow their interests and requests, swapping roles in order support this. This meant that children were well-supervised.

Parents shared, "The staff team work well together, with parents, and have built great relationships with the children. It is nice to see a team get on so well", and "Love the staff, they are kind and caring. Always smiles on their faces and welcoming to the children."

Staff were enthusiastic about their role working with the children. They were courteous and respectful to each other. This provided a happy and relaxed atmosphere for children. In our questionnaire, most parents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement 'I am confident that staff have the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience to care for my child and support their learning'. Parents were complimentary of the staff team, describing them as, "brilliant", "kind and caring", "friendly and helpful - professional".

Safe recruitment procedures had been followed and staff were registered with the appropriate professional body, The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). New staff were inducted into the service. They spoke highly of the club and the staff team stating, "The staff are really supportive, it's a refreshing experience working here in the club, everyone has each other's backs, a good team."

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

The service had a system in place for recording and reviewing accidents and incidents. However, we found there were two instances where the manager had not reported notifiable events to the Care Inspectorate. Whilst the events were dealt with appropriately, we signposted the manager to the Care Inspectorate guidance "Records that all registered care services (except childminding) must keep and guidance on notification reporting". This is to ensure the club works in partnership with the Care Inspectorate regarding notifications and events. We were confident the manager would make any future notifications as required.

This area for improvement was made on 27 April 2018.

Action taken since then

The manager was aware of her responsibility in reporting notifiable events, such as accidents and incidents to the Care Inspectorate.

This area for improvement had been met.

Previous area for improvement 2

Whilst we were satisfied with the information the club held for children, we discussed how they could develop all children's personal plans by consistently recording any strategies of support for children as required. This will support the club to review the impact of any strategies in order to further support children. The club should also ensure parents confirm the information has been reviewed at least every six months. This is to ensure children's information continues to reflect any current needs. We will follow this up at the next inspection.

This area for improvement was made on 27 April 2018.

Action taken since then

The service had further developed children's personal plans to ensure the club was consistently recording any strategies of support for children as required. In addition, systems were in place to ensure personal plans were reviewed at least every six months.

This area for improvement had been met.

Previous area for improvement 3

Whilst the club had worked on a variety of identified improvement priorities since the last inspection, we discussed with the manager and playleader about developing a more formalised approach to quality assurance. We signposted them to some resources that can support this process and discussed with them some of the ways they could communicate their future improvement work to parents and children.

This area for improvement was made on 27 April 2018.

Action taken since then

Further work is needed to develop a more formalised approach to quality assurance.

This area for improvement has not been met and has been restated within this report under Quality Indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well.

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?	4 - Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	4 - Good

How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	4 - Good

How good is our staff team?	4 - Good
4.3 Staff deployment	4 - Good

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànain eile ma nithear iarrtas.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.