Skool Is Out @ Bruntsfield Centre
Day Care of Children

Bruntsfield Centre
70 Leamington Terrace
Edinburgh
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Telephone: 07713999069

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
28 January 2020

Service provided by:
Skool Is Out Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2003003248

Service no:
CS2018366282

About the service

Skool Is Out @ Brunsfield registered with the Care Inspectorate 19 December 2018.

The service operates from premises within Brunsfield Centre and provides an early learning and childcare service to a maximum of 80 school aged children from primary 4-7.

The venue has a large and bright upstairs hall with kitchen access. Two smaller rooms are located downstairs which provide for quieter activities with a garden area leading from one.
A secure entry system is in place to ensure children's safety.

The service aims and objectives are;
"We aim to offer parents flexible and affordable childcare in the caring, safe and friendly environment of our child-centered clubs. The environments of our clubs provide children stimulating, constructive and challenging activities in a structure which is responsive to the children's individual needs and that provides flexibility and choice, while adhering to the core principles of the Health and Social Care Standards at all times. Our P4-7 club at Bruntsfield has particular focus on empowering children to determine their own play processes and will facilitate this as far as is reasonably practicable. We also have a commitment to risky and outdoor play, in line with recent Care Inspectorate guidelines."

What people told us

Prior to the inspection we gave 25 Care Standard Questionnaires (CSQs) to the service to give to parents
17 completed forms were returned. Comments received were:

"The staff team are very friendly and approachable there is never a problem with amending arangements or being flexible"

"I think that Skool is Out takes parents and children's views seriously and has always asked for feedback and acted upon ideas and suggestions"

"Very pleased with Skool is Out, really excellent provider"

"The heat and noise during the summer can be overwhelming, solutions should be looked at to have a large fan. Overall excellent care and staff and very happy kids"

"They are organised and offer a good range of activities and outdoor playtime"

"The staff communicate well with the parents and children, I am always kept up to date and can ask questions. Staff take great care of my child regarding allergies"

"Communication from the team is always clear and prompt, all the staff are helpful and friendly and take time to engage with my child"

"There is a good range of activities and opportunities for everyone to play and also quiet and rest quiet".

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment prior to the inspection. We looked at their improvement plan and quality assurance processes as part of the inspection and areas for development are included in this report.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children were happy, confident and relaxed in the setting. They had clearly made friendships with each other and spent time engaged in activities together. They told us they had "lots to do in the club" and that the staff were "nice" Staff were responsive to children and we saw warm and positive relationships which meant children were valued and respected.

Positive behaviour was promoted and we saw interactions between children and staff discussing "rules of the club" Staff listened to children's views and were calm and relaxed in their responses, however they were consistent in their approach as to the importance of boundaries. These were to maintain safety and promote respect and consideration of others.

Children influenced decision making and planning of activities in the club through the involvement of regular planning sessions and the "Kids Council". Children told us that the Kids Council gave them the opportunity to share their views and ideas of what they would like in the club. Experiences were provided in a responsive way with children's interests and ideas being respected. They were flexible to meet their changing interests and needs.

Personal plans held information to support and promote children's well-being, health and safety, which incorporated the GIRFEC wellbeing indicators. These were reviewed with parents regularly which meant the information remained current and relevant. Staff demonstrated that they knew the children well and had effective strategies in place to support individual children's care needs in consultation with parents. These outlined clear plans and a stepped approach to support children's care needs, medical conditions and allergies.

Staff followed with best practice guidance 'Setting the table' (NHS) to promote children's health and wellbeing. Children informed the menu planning which had set days of 'children's choices.'

Staff prepared snacks in advance of children arriving which meant that opportunities for children to be involved were limited. The service should continue to further develop ways to enhance children's independence through the preparation and self serving of snack We discussed with staff that baking activities should reflect best practice guidance and provide opportunities to promote future healthy eating habits.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children benefitted from a warm, welcoming environment, that was well planned, organised and well maintained. Staff were enthusiastic and motivated in providing a range of activities to meet children's interests and needs.

Good communication systems were in place to ensure that children were kept safe which included a secure entry system into the building. During school pick up times staff were clear of their role and the procedures to follow in the event of absent children. These times were well managed and staff were appropriately deployed to manage the transition from school to the club.

Resources were easily accessible and provided for the varying ages and interests of the children. activities were provided across three rooms with the main of activities held in the large upstairs hall. On offer was a range of art and craft activities, games, badminton construction toys, and a reading area. The downstairs rooms were for quieter activities and time for children to "chill out".

To further enhance the quality of opportunities and experiences we discussed with staff they should continue to develop loose parts play. This would provide further opportunities of challenge for children and promote problem solving creativity and curiosity.

Children's health and well being was promoted with access to outdoor play on a daily basis. An outdoor area led from one of the downstairs play areas which provided free flow access for children which meant they could choose when and where they wanted to play. Children also had daily access to the local community park which provided opportunity to engage in physical and energetic play..

Children told us that they would like to listen to music however it wasnt always available. We spoke to the manager who agreed that music could be played more regularly in a quieter downstairs room or through the use of headphones.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Staff worked well together in a positive and respectful way. They supported each other to complete routines of the day and provided a range of opportunities and experiences for children. Interactions were caring and responsive and children were clearly comfortable in approaching and engaging with staff.

Staff demonstrated a good understanding of the policies and procedures in place to ensure children's care and welfare, including child protection. The manager had undertaken enhanced child protection training to support her role as the child protection coordinator for the setting. Staff routinely engaged in core training to keep their skills updated in child protection. first aid and food hygiene.

Regular team meetings provided opportunities for staff to contribute their ideas and suggestions. Staff told us that they felt supported and their views were valued. The meetings included staff familiarising themselves with best practice guidance documents and keeping abreast of current developments and research.

Systems were in place to offer staff regular support and supervision, and staff appraisals were carried out yearly. These helped identify staff training needs to further assist them in their role within the club. We discussed with the manager that they could more reflective in identifying and discussing any practice issues, identifying strengths and areas of development.

Staff were recruited in line with safer recruitment guidelines. An induction programme for newly employed staff included an overview of the setting, policies and procedures and staff duties. Staff told us they found the induction thorough and it gave them a good understanding of their role.

At times some staff became task focussed towards the end of the session while tidying up. It meant there were some missed opportunities to be available for parents to share information and give feedback on their child's day.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

The manager was confident in her knowledge of the setting and was committed in her approach to develop and improve the service. She was supported in her role by the management team.

Policies and procedures were in place to support children's wellbeing and ensure positive relationships with parents. These were displayed at the club entrance and could be sent to parents on request. Quality assurance and monitoring systems were in line with regulations, best practice guidance and the Health and Social Care Standards. These were embedded into practice to ensure a consistent approach in all systemic evaluations.

Parents were encouraged to be involved in the life of the club and were given a variety of opportunities to evaluate the service. These included daily discussions, newsletters and parent drop in sessions. This helped to ensure that parents had opportunities to comment on the quality of service and influence it's improvement and development.

Parents told us they felt well informed of what was happening in the club and that "Communication with staff and the management team was very good"

The improvement plan was detailed and had a business and strategic focus in line with the registering and opening of the club. The management team were reflective and agreed that the future improvement plan should focus directly on the key priorities of the club. Staff involvement in the planning process would embed a shared approach to improvement and promote positive outcomes for children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

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

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Complaints

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

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

This service does not have any prior inspection history or grades.

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