

First Adventures Nursery - Teddy Bear House Day Care of Children

43a High Street
Linlithgow
EH49 7ED

Telephone: 01506 671672

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

30 November 2018

Service provided by:

First Adventures Nursery

Service provider number:

SP2003002958

Service no:

CS2003013437

About the service

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and what they can do to improve. GIRFEC is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

The service is provided in a detached building in a large garden which is accessed from Linlithgow High Street. The children are cared for in two bright rooms with a sleep area and access to the garden from the conservatory.

The service has well-developed aims and objectives which include:

"to provide the highest standards of excellence in nursery care, early learning and education for our children where each child is welcomed, valued, secure, stimulated and encouraged to develop at their own pace. To do this we put the child at the centre - regarding each child as an individual whose experience is of central importance. We recognise and explore their interests and aptitudes and provide opportunities, resources and activities to encourage success and achievement whilst ensuring there is always lots of fun!"

The service is currently registered with the following conditions:

1. Facilities to be provided: Private Nursery
2. To provide a care service to a maximum of 24 children aged 0 - 2 years.
3. Staffing: Ratios as stated in the National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 must be maintained at all times. A minimum of two adults must be present at all times.
4. The care service shall operated between the hours of 8.00am - 6.00pm Monday - Friday.

What people told us

The families who returned our questionnaires before the inspection gave very positive feedback about all aspects of the service. The families we spoke with during the inspection were very happy with the care provided and the staff skills and professionalism. Comments included:

"I've been able to return to work after maternity leave knowing that my (child) is being looked after and having a fun time with the staff and nursery friends! It's a great nursery, that has a really positive atmosphere."

"Our (children) both attended First Adventures and we are delighted with every aspect of the nursery. Staff are always attentive, approachable and enthusiastic. Activities are well planned and change often. Management are receptive to suggestions, communication from the nursery is frequent. Haven't got a bad word to say about the nursery!"

"I have had one child complete their nursery education through all stages of first adventures- and they are happy confident and well spoken. The two times I have had a point of criticism it has been taken on board in a non-confrontational and professional way and with no consequence to the treatment of my children. I would recommend first adventures to anyone."

"The nursery is extremely well run. The manager is approachable , kind and organised and under her leadership , I feel confident that my children are receiving the best start and pre-school education. The systems and procedures in place are well thought out and parents are sought out for their views and feedback."

The babies and young children attending the service during the inspection appeared to be very comfortable with the staff team and were busy enjoying a variety of play opportunities which would support them to develop.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring 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	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

What the service does well

We saw that the staff took time to get to know the children and their families to support them to settle into the service. The children had positive relationships with the staff team who were responsive in their care and meeting their needs well. We saw that children's personal plans were updated regularly with families and supported staff to keep the children safe and help them to learn new skills and develop.

Children were busy in the service, enjoying a variety of play opportunities which supported them to be physically active, develop their curiosity and problem solving and imagination.

The children were supported by staff who were kind, caring and supported them to be independent appropriately for their age, for example feeding themselves and learning to put on their own shoes and coats to go outside. The staff team were skilled at supporting the children's emotional wellbeing through their practice, using praise to help children make positive choices about their behaviour.

Children enjoyed healthy snacks sitting with staff who made mealtimes pleasant social experiences. Children were eating at their own pace and staff supported them to eat independently. This will help the children to develop a positive attitude to healthy foods. The management team were involved in the service daily, supporting staff to deliver a quality service. The staff and families using the service told us the management team were approachable and supportive.

Families told us they were routinely involved in giving feedback on the all aspects of the service. The service shared how they used their feedback to further develop the service provided through displays and newsletters.

The management team planned to meet children's needs well through consistent and well organised staff rotas. For example consistent lunch cover staff being brought in daily. This helped the children to feel safe and the staff team feel respected and valued.

Staff told us they felt valued by the organisation who supported them in their role through regular staff meetings, support and supervision and a variety of training opportunities. Staff told us the management team regular asked for their feedback and listened to their views helping to improve the service.

The service had a development plan which highlighted two areas of practice they planned to develop to improve the quality of opportunities for the children, these were Froebelian practice and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The staff team knew the development areas and some had started to work on developing these further in the service.

We spoke to the staff team about their understanding of protecting children from harm. We were satisfied that some were very confident in this and those who were new to the service were able to identify what to look out for and who to seek advice from if they had any concerns. This will help to ensure children's safety.

What the service could do better

We spoke about developing the quality assurance in the service to ensure that it was supporting improvement effectively. For example, encouraging staff to be confident in identifying improvements during room monitoring. This will support them to identify for example improvements in the environment in line with current best practice guidance. The management team could develop the systems to show how they know they have improved outcomes for the children through their monitoring. This would support them to identify changes in the environment and practice to continue to drive improvement in the service.

The service could continue to develop the opportunities for children to be creative and curious through the use of open-ended and natural materials.

The service could develop the cosy spaces available to the children for example through 'dens' or tents to give them more opportunities to rest or play in small groups.

We spoke with the service about ways to develop the variety of outdoor play opportunities for the babies and children when the weather is very cold or wet as these were limited during the inspection. The managers had started buying more waterproof suits and wellies to ensure that children could access more of the garden in all weathers before we finished the inspection.

We asked the service to consider how adult-led routines were disrupting children's play experiences throughout the day to ensure that these could be minimised.

We spoke about reviewing the sleep practice and nappy changing facilities in the service to ensure that it was consistent across the nursery and in line with current best practice.

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

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
18 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment 6 - Excellent Not assessed

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent Not assessed
21 Aug 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
12 Sep 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
27 Oct 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
17 Feb 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed
10 Dec 2008	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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