

Bright Horizons Early Learning and Childcare 44 St. Swithin Day Care of Children

44 St Swithin Street
Aberdeen
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Telephone: 01224 324556

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

3 February 2020

Service provided by:

Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd

Service provider number:

SP2003000319

Service no:

CS2015343380

About the service

Bright Horizons Early Learning and Childcare 44 St. Swithin registered with the Care Inspectorate in March 2016.

The service is provided by Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd. It provides a day care of children service for a maximum of 58 children aged from 0 to an age to attend primary school full time, of whom no more than 18 are less than 2 years.

The service operates from a townhouse in the city of Aberdeen. There is an enclosed garden with roadside parking available for parents. The children have access to playrooms spread across three floors. The service is within easy access to the local schools and amenities such as parks, gardens, shops and Library.

The aims of the service include to offer a warm, welcoming environment supporting the transition from home to nursery.

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. Getting it right for every child 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 Getting it right for every child. 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.

What people told us

There were approximately 40 children present at the time of the inspection. We observed the children and saw that they were happy and confident during their time at nursery. We talked to them about their experiences. Children enjoyed talking to us about their play dough creations, their cooking methods and recipes they were following, paintings and art creations and stories they were reading.

Seven parents returned completed questionnaires to us before the inspection. All told us that they were happy or very happy with the overall service provided.

Comments from parents included:

"Always professional and friendly. My child adores the teachers. I have so much confidence in this place and people, that I have signed my second child to attend. Great staff!"

"We are extremely happy with the service provided at 44. The staff are amazing with the care and development for my child. I couldn't recommend them high enough. They really are the best."

"Both my children have attended this nursery and we have nothing but good things to say about the nursery. My youngest child will be starting school next year and we feel the staff have already done so much to prepare her for starting school. We would highly recommend this nursery to anybody and would like to thank all the staff for there help over the years."

"44 St. Swithin day nursery is a fantastic nursery. All the staff are helpful and have my children's best interests."

"Consistently excellent care for my child and we are happy with all aspects of their development."

"44 St. Swithin consistently go over and above. The nursery has a family feel and great relationship with parents. I am extremely happy with the atmosphere and quality of care my children receive. I think all the staff are fantastic."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan and quality assurance processes. 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	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children received very good care and support from staff who were warm, attentive and enthusiastic. Staff demonstrated that they knew children well and were building secure, trusting relationships with children and parents. They sought information from parents which enabled staff to meet children's needs. This helped children to feel secure.

Where children also received support from external professionals, we found that staff worked closely with them and implemented the advice received from specialists to support positive outcomes for the children. This provided consistency and helped children to achieve.

Staff demonstrated appropriate knowledge and awareness of how to keep children safe and protected following the correct guidance and procedures. This created a safe and secure environment for children to learn and develop.

We noted the staff were motivated and enthusiastic about their caring role and worked well together as a team to meet the needs of the children creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for children.

Meal times provided a good quality experiences for children. Children chatted with staff happily sharing news and stories and their knowledge of how food helps them to 'grow big'. Children were supported to be independent and serve their own food. This was managed well for children with allergies.

Following the previous inspection new kitchen facilities had been installed within the nursery with the intention of a cook being employed to home cook all the meals.

Babies were cared for by staff who were tuned into their needs. Staff provided children with cuddles and nurturing support. New children to the group were given plenty of time and attention to get to know key staff along with their parents. Babies enjoyed a relaxed day exploring a range of sensory play supported by adults.

Toddlers enjoyed a range of challenging activities such as clay, painting and investigating loose parts. Staff listened well to children, giving lots of time to think and respond within conversation and understood when to make an activity more challenging for some children.

Children in the pre-school room played very well together. They were very comfortable with each other and were busy chatting and engaged in play and had very good opportunities to learn and explore. Children built their own kitchen from blocks and baked their cakes. Others made potions in the water, mixing and pouring with skill. Some children found some lemon seeds and planted them a miniature garden area, they told us all about what seeds need to grow and where the rain comes from.

Staff were competent and encouraged to develop their skills and knowledge further. Staff were up-to-date with core training such as child protection, first aid, and food hygiene. Staff were enthusiastic to be attending a range of continuous professional development opportunities to further their knowledge. They had participated in a range of training opportunities including loose parts, mental health and autism awareness. These had been identified for staff as an individual area of interest or as part of a wider development plan. Staff reviewed learning and next steps to improve their practice. This helped to ensure children received the best care following guidance and research.

Staff were supported in leadership roles within the nursery. This allowed staff to review and develop areas of practice and focus on how to improve the standard of play and learning opportunities for children. This created a strong team ethos towards improvement and personal development which resulted in positive outcomes for children.

What the service could do better

Staff recognised the need to review how well children were involving and engaging in learning and wellbeing. Chosen methods such as the use of the leuven scale of engagement were in the early stages of use. Staff spoke to us about the benefits this had to areas of progress, such as more challenging activities for some children. We suggested that this chosen method could be enhanced further to improve on staff observation skills and outcomes for children.

The garden area had undergone recent improvement work. Staff had plans in place for this to continue. We suggested further areas to enhance learning such as growing edible plants.

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
14 Mar 2019	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
7 Feb 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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