

Little Beehive Nursery (Kirkcaldy) Limited

Day Care of Children

26a Balfour Street
Kirkcaldy
KY2 5HB

Telephone: 01592 328002

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 21 November 2017

Service provided by:
Little Beehive Nursery (Kirkcaldy)
Limited

Service provider number:
SP2010011033

Care service number:
CS2010269759

About the service

Little Beehive Nursery (Kirkcaldy) Limited, registered with the Care Inspectorate in 2010. The service is part of a group of privately owned nurseries across Fife and Angus. It provides a day care of service to a maximum of 57 children under the age of 12 years. No more than 33 may be under the age of three of whom no more than 15 may be under the age of two.

The care service may operate Monday to Friday between the times of 08:00 and 18:00. The manager must ensure that there are, at all times, sufficient staff to meet the needs of children. Minimum ratios as laid out in National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 apply.

The registered areas are the nursery building and enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the property. The nursery is situated within a residential area of Kirkcaldy, which is close to the local school, train station, college and other amenities.

The service stated that their motto is "Learning Through Play" and that this ethos is adopted across all their nurseries for all ages. Children have fun-filled activities throughout the day following the Pre-Birth to Three or Curriculum for Excellence ensuring they are learning while having fun.

We are carrying out a pilot using the Short Observational Framework for Inspection (SOFI 2) tool. The tool supports inspectors to carry out focussed observations of children's experiences while at nursery. We carried out a SOFI 2 observation as part of this inspection, which has informed our findings. The findings are threaded throughout the report.

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 Getting it Right for Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included.

What people told us

We spent time with children in all areas of the nursery. We found children to be happy, relaxed, confident and secure with the staff and within the nursery environment. Where appropriate, children shared with us some of their experiences at nursery, and enjoyed talking us through their learning journals. Other comments from children included:

- "I'm building a pirate ship."
- "We are having snack. We have apple, peppers, cucumber and carrots. This is my favourite snack."
- "I know that bonjour is French for hello. I learned it when I went to the French Disneyland."
- "I like to play with Lego and action figures. I don't always have snack."

We provided the service with 19 questionnaires to distribute to parents/carers. We received nine completed questionnaires before the inspection. All parents/carers agreed or strongly agreed that they were happy with the overall quality of care and support provided to their child. Other comments from parents included:

- "From the induction stage to now the staff have presented as friendly, approachable, confident and professional. We go to work reassured our daughter is receiving the best care! She adores her time at little beehive."
- "Staff are very attentive to my child's needs and are effective in communicating any observations/ comments they may have."
- "Friendly, competent and welcoming staff. Really appreciate the fact that they can take my child on an irregular basis."
- "Both my children enjoy the nursery and always love the activities. They both have good rapport with the staff."
- "I honestly find the nursery and staff wonderful. My son learns so much and seems to do lots of fun activities. Really happy."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at the services improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated how the service was monitoring the overall quality of the service and outlined their priorities for developing the service further.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

We observed children to be cared for by staff who were warm, caring and focused on providing a good quality service.

Children's interests and achievements were supported very well. Staff identified where children's interests could be extended further and provided appropriate challenge. Children's next steps were recorded and we were able to see how some of these had been met. The service had recently introduced online learning journals, which had increased parental participation. Parents could add additional comments or observations from home at any time. The nursery manager and provider oversaw the quality of children's learning and addressed any issues as they arose.

The youngest children benefitted from a new planning format devised by the nursery manager and provider. This ensured children had access to a wide range of experiences appropriate to their age and stage of development. Although this was still at an early stage, the manager had seen improvements in the quality of experiences provided. Staff told us they were more confident using the new style of planning and could see the clear benefits for children.

Parents received a range of information about their child's day. This was done verbally and through online diaries. We reviewed some of these and found they contained a good range of information. Staff told us that some parents prefer to have a short discussion with them at collection and drop off time as well as accessing the online diary and staff were more than happy to accommodate this.

Children empowered by staff to be independent during their play and through a wide range of personal care tasks. The youngest children were being supported to wash their hands and blow their own noses. We observed staff to do this at a very relaxed pace, allowing children time to fully understand how to do this themselves.

Older children were able to access all aspects of their playroom. We saw the oldest children accessing the enclosed garden independently. Children were very clear on the rules and their responsibilities, which enabled them to do this safely. We observed staff to allow children adequate space to try new tasks and provide supported only when required.

Children were able to be active on a daily basis through accessing resources within the local community or the nursery garden. The garden has been developed with loose parts to support children's creativity, challenge, cooperation and enjoyment. Children use the resources well for a range of play experiences, which were different depending on the age of children. Parents and carers had been involved in supporting children to plant vegetables and a range of plants in the nursery garden.

The layout of the room for the oldest children had been redesigned to provide more defined zones and promote children's independence. Staff were very positive about the difference this had made for children. We observed children to freely move around the room and use all the areas available. Children had very good opportunities to take ownership of their space, including bringing in items from home. Children who attended the out of school club also had their own small space within the room. This had been positively received by the school-aged children. Children spoke positively about attending the service after school and shared with us some of their favourite activities they enjoyed.

What the service could do better

Children's learning journals were completed to a very good standard; however, the older children had little knowledge on how they could access these. Staff should ensure that children are familiar with how to access their learning journals. This will ensure children are included in reflecting and contributing to their achievements. A recommendation was made.

Older children could be further involved in learning about risk and how to keep themselves safe within the playroom or garden, when taking part in activities or attending outings. We provided some suggestions on how this could be achieved.

To make children feel more comfortable and secure, the manager should review the toddler room to ensure it fully meets the needs of this age group of children. Although the activities and resources on offer were very good, the room layout could be improved to provide smaller and more defined areas.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. To ensure children are fully included in their learning, the service should review online learning journals so that children can access these independently.

National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 4 - Engaging with Children, Standard 5 - Quality of Experience, Standard 6 - Support and Development.

Complaints

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

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
14 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
1 Nov 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
26 Apr 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
26 Apr 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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