

Little Beehive Nursery (Angus) Ltd

Day Care of Children

1 Museum Street
Montrose
DD10 8HE

Telephone: 01674 671717

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 10 August 2017

Service provided by:
Little Beehive Nursery (Angus) Limited

Service provider number:
SP2007009381

Care service number:
CS2007163705

About the service

Little Beehive Nursery (Angus) Ltd is registered to provide a day care service for children to a maximum of 53 children, where no more than 12 have reached their second birthday. The service is provided from a converted building near the centre of Montrose. Accommodation is on two levels and consists of three separate playrooms, each with their own toilet and nappy changing facilities (where appropriate). The service has a small fully enclosed outdoor play area. The service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since December 2007.

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

In advance of the inspection we received five completed questionnaires from parents. They all agreed or strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care received by their children while in the service. During the inspection we spoke to a further four parents. The comments from parents were very positive. They told us:

"Little Beehive nursery are very professional but also very friendly and caring."

"Staff have helped my child grow in confidence and encouraged him to make friends."

"Staff are very understanding and complete care plans relevant to my child's care. These are regularly used and updated by staff which I find reassuring."

"I am really happy with the nursery, the staff and the facilities."

"My child has settled really well. She is happy so I am happy."

"The staff are lovely. We get loads of information. I like looking at the online journals."

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 paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring of 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	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Little Beehive Nursery had a staff team who worked effectively together. They were committed to their own training and professional learning, they used this to review and improve the experiences and outcomes for children. The directors were proactive in promoting staff learning and providing support and encouragement. They demonstrated a good understanding of staff strengths and learning needs.

The staff were highly regarded by parents. This was confirmed in the responses to our questionnaires and from the parents that we spoke to.

We saw that children were treated in a respectful and sensitive manner by all of the staff we saw during the inspection. Staff clearly knew the children well and spent time each day sharing information with parents and ensuring that routines were followed and all of children's care needs were met. Children's medical conditions and allergies were well managed, they were kept under regular review and staff were knowledgeable.

The lunch time experience for children was good. They were offered home cooked meals which were seen to be enjoyed. Children were well supported by staff who sat with the children, ate with them and supported their independence and encouraged conversation about what they were eating.

The service had a very good approach to involving parents in their children's nursery experience. There was a wide variety of opportunities for participation and communication. This was appreciated by parents.

E-Portfolios were being successfully used to share children's learning with parents. Observations and photographs were used to illustrate aspects of children's learning and development. Staff observations were followed up by a question designed to encourage parents to respond. This was successful in engaging parents in their children's learning.

All children benefitted from regular outings into the local community. They had regular active play in local parks and gardens. Staff were well organised for outings and were seen to be vigilant in keeping children safe. The nursery garden was being developed by staff and provided interesting challenges and sensory experiences for children.

The service had addressed all of the recommendations made at our previous inspection. Some of these continued to be a focus for further improvement and development.

What the service could do better

The nursery had some good opportunities for the older children to participate in making choices and decisions about their activities and routines. We discussed that this should be promoted more for the younger children. We suggested the use of photographs to encourage the babies and toddlers to express their choices and preferences. Children should continue to be involved in the planning of their learning. We would like to see more individual responses showing how these were progressed. Floor books were already being used and we would like to see photographs, staff and children's comments and possible lines of development reflecting individual children's interests and questions.

The service was continuing to offer staff training to support improvements in observing and evaluating children's learning. Observations were predominantly descriptive. We agreed that this was an area of development and encouraged them to work with staff to improve their questioning and interactions with children to promote learning.

Outings were well planned and organised. We asked that staff carefully consider the purpose of outings, to make sure that they were purposeful and offered children appropriate experiences. The newly introduced loose part play sessions should be of a suitable length to allow children the time to play, explore, investigate and create. Staff should allow children to be independent and they should consider how to make well judged and timely interventions to advance children's learning.

Staff should be employed following the most recent guidance on safer recruitment.

We were confident that this service had audit processes which allowed them to identify their own areas which required to be developed. They had the capacity and ambition for improvement.

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.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
15 Jul 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
24 Jul 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
26 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
30 Jun 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
29 Oct 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
31 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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