

Doodlebugs Day Nursery (Aberuthven) Day Care of Children

Main Street
Aberuthven
Auchterarder
PH3 1HE

Telephone: 01764 662266

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 26 July 2016

Service provided by:
Doodlebugs Day Nurseries Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2013012143

Care service number:
CS2013319773

About the service

Doodlebugs Day Nursery (Aberuthven) is one of two privately owned daycare of children services operated by Doodlebugs Day Nurseries Ltd.

The service works in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council.

The nursery is located on the edge of the village of Aberuthven in a purpose-built, two-storey building. Playrooms for the oldest and youngest children were located on the upper floor with children aged between one and three being cared for in two rooms on the ground floor. Children on the ground floor have direct access to a well resourced, enclosed nursery garden.

The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 74 children up to the age of eight years at any one time which includes a maximum of 19 children under two years, 21 children aged two to three years and 34 children aged three to those not yet attending primary school of whom there can be a maximum of 10 children on primary school age up to the age of eight years.

The provider has a comprehensive list of nursery aims which includes their commitment to treating each child as an individual, recognising each child's rights to be Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included (the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators) and to work in partnership with parents and professionals to ensure that all learners grow and develop educationally, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

What people told us

On the day of inspection 41 children were in attendance across the service.

During the inspection we spoke to seven parents who all had a very positive view of the nursery. They confirmed that the staff were friendly and approachable and supported their children's learning and development. They told us that the nursery enjoyed a very good reputation within the local area and that the staff were "fantastic". Parents we spoke to were very happy with the level of communication between home and nursery and shared with us the different ways in which they were or could be involved.

During the inspection we observed the children at play and found them to be happy and confident, enjoying their activities, snacks and lunches. The children were happy to tell us about the nursery and the things they enjoyed doing there and were keen to involve us in their play. They told us:

"I'm squishing the playdoh, look at my nails, they're green!"

"We're sticking hens on. There's four, we're going to draw circles."

"We have to take these cookies to Grandma's, I'm making them."

"We're going to play parachute games in the garden outside."

"I'm having soup and bread, I have that at home. Can I have more bread? I like it."

Self assessment

As requested by us a completed self-assessment was received prior to the inspection.

Information from this was used in the writing of this report. The service had highlighted their good practice and had identified the improvements that they were working on. These improvements included updating the staff welcome packs and playroom induction to better support new staff, increasing parental awareness of the developmental milestones and continuing to develop the involvement of parents in the recruitment of new staff.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 – Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	6 – Excellent
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

During the inspection we considered the quality of care and support, from the evidence gathered during our inspection we evaluated this theme as very good. We also looked at the quality of staffing which we evaluated as excellent, the service had worked hard to maintain this grade from their previous inspection.

We looked at the child protection policy and spoke with staff. We were satisfied that they had a good working knowledge of their responsibilities and the procedures to ensure that service users were protected.

Parents confirmed that they felt fully involved in the induction and transition process. The youngest children were well supported in the move from home to nursery through visits and the service's 'Preparing for Nursery Life' sheets. The children's care plans were revisited regularly to ensure that children were nurtured and parents views were respected. Moves between the rooms were not always dictated by age. Staff considered children's achievements and readiness to move. Staff consult with parents and where possible, children ensuring that they are included in the process. Transitions to a range of local primary schools were well-managed and the service was proactive in creating a transition program.

We saw that the staff knew the children and their parents well, they enjoyed excellent positive nurturing relationships. Staff gave children choices and the opportunities to be included in all activities on offer.

Staff were recruited safely following a robust selection and interview process. We particularly liked the involvement of parents on the interview panel and in the writing of questions. Children and parents were asked to consider what they would like to see in a member of staff. This told us that the service respected the views of all service users.

A comprehensive induction program was in place for successful candidates. Staff told us that they felt well supported by the management team and by their peers. We observed staff working very well together. Staff had undertaken a variety of core training, and their knowledge and skills were found to be very good. Staff were aware of and operated to current best practice, local and national documentation. We found staff to be reflective practitioners, and children's experiences were continually improved as a result.

Staff were required to participate in innovative quizzes. These quizzes tested staff understanding of policies and procedures and were also used as a fun way in getting to know each other and the nursery setting.

The nursery food and menu was of a very high standard. The cook had an excellent understanding of the Setting the Table document and had embraced its message across all age ranges. She spent time with parents to discuss children's diet, respecting their ideas as well as sharing tips and ideas on the introduction of new foods at home. The cook was responsible for delivering training on food hygiene and snack preparation to all new starts, this contributed to keeping the children safe and healthy.

What the service could do better

We looked at the children's individual folders across all ages and stages. The service was in the process of updating the files for older children. We particularly liked the style of journal used with the younger age group where children's learning and achievements were personalised. We felt that this style should be adopted throughout the service, putting more focus on children's individual learning and next steps. Some observations noted in folders were descriptions of activities undertaken, we would ask staff to work together to ensure these reflect and record children's significant learning.

A wealth of information was held on individual children in many different places, staff should consider how this information could be streamlined to be included in one journal. The staff were very good at involving parents in discussions about their child's transitions and this was held in a transition floorbook. We felt that this personal information should be held in children's individual folders.

We saw evidence of staff training through the manager's record. Staff who had attended training were encouraged to disseminate new ideas and best practice during staff meetings. Previously staff had been required to complete evaluation sheets and consider the impact the training would have on the service. We felt that this should be reinstated as it kept a valuable record of honest and reflective evaluations by staff.

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	
21 Aug 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.