

Honeypot Children's Nursery - Almondbank Day Care of Children

Unit 17, Lochty Industrial Estate
Almondbank
Perth
PH1 3NP

Telephone: 01738 583800

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 27 February 2017

Service provided by:
The Honeypot Children's Nursery
Limited

Service provider number:
SP2003002169

Care service number:
CS2003010119

About the service

Honeypot Children's Nursery - Almondbank is one of a group of privately owned nurseries which are situated in and around Perth. Almondbank is on the outskirts of Perth and has direct transport links to the city centre. The service operates from a detached building with three playrooms, an entrance hall and offices. All of the playrooms have direct access to enclosed outdoor areas. There is a large car park available for staff and parents.

The service has its own manager who works on-site. There are regular visits from an area manager who works in all of the company nurseries.

The aims of the nursery state that:

"At The Honeypot Nursery we aim to provide a warm, secure, nurturing environment in which each child can feel safe, included and respected. The nursery is committed at all times to the wellbeing of each individual; providing them with relevant play experiences children are able to thrive and develop at their own pace."

The service is registered to offer care to a maximum of 20 children from birth to under two, 15 children aged two years and 40 children of three years and over. The service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since April 2011.

On the day of the inspection there were 16 children in the pre-school room, nine children in the tweenie room and eight children in the baby room.

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, included.

What people told us

In advance of the inspection we received five completed questionnaires from parents and during the inspection we spoke to a further two parents.

All of the parents who responded told us that they strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care their child received while in the service.

All of the comments were very positive about the nursery in general and the quality of the staff. Parents told us:

"Excellent staff, well informed at all times."

"I couldn't ask for better care for my child in nursery."

"Wonderful nursery and staff. Genuinely believe that they care for my child. Great atmosphere and makes me feel at ease knowing that my child will be looked after and have great fun."

"The range of non specific toys and the natural outdoor space is brilliant. My child loves using his imagination and creating in these spaces."

"I would like a little more communication about what my child is learning."

"The children are regularly outside. There is active encouragement to learn. They help to create balanced little people."

During the inspection the children were busy in all of the playrooms. The older children were very confident and keen to tell us what they were doing. They told us:

"This is our camper van."

"We've got tools. I've got the drill to fix the wheels."

"This is the garden story corner and this is the garden classroom where we have outside snack."

"I'm out here playing with my friends."

"We had cereal for snack today. I ate it with loads and loads of milk."

"My mum likes to look at my book when she comes in. I like when I can do drawings in it."

Self assessment

The service had completed a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. Staff had been involved in contributing to this. There was some evidence of input from parents. We used the information contained in the self evaluation to focus the inspection. The information contained was helpful in the writing of this report.

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

Children were happy and settled. They were all enjoying and learning from resources and activities which promoted imagination, problem solving and creativity. They had very good relationships with staff who were warm and nurturing. Very good information was gathered from parents when children first started. This meant that staff knew the children well and as a result they could support children effectively. Daily routines were regularly updated and followed by the staff. All children had learning journeys where staff used photographs and text to record their learning and progress. Parents and children contributed to goal setting and milestones were used to monitor the development of the younger children. Very good systems were in place to keep parents involved and updated.

We saw that the children were fully involved in contributing and making choices about their nursery experience. Their interests were followed and their choices respected.

We looked at the child protection procedures and practice in the service. We were satisfied that they were robust and ensured that children were protected.

The service had a very good approach to protecting the health and wellbeing of all children. Children with allergies and ongoing medical needs had individual protocols which were regularly reviewed with parents. Children with additional needs were supported by staff and outside agencies. Their targets and progress were recorded on an individual education plan (IEP).

There were opportunities for regular outdoor play which was clearly enjoyed by all of the children we saw. An excellent use of loose parts and natural materials was seen in the playrooms and outdoor areas. The manager had a clear vision for the nursery and the experiences that she considered important for children's care and learning. These were underpinned by current guidance from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate. The staff, supported and encouraged by the manager, were very knowledgeable about the importance of play in children's learning. The manager met with staff and together they agreed on areas of learning and development. We saw that the enthusiasm and commitment of the staff was having a very positive impact on the outcomes for the children. The manager had excellent support from senior room staff who were working to support inexperienced and newly appointed staff. They were excellent role models and were working to establish their newly formed teams.

The manager and staff had a strong commitment to improvement. They had a clear understanding of their strengths and the areas where they need to improve their provision. They made good use of action plans, team meetings, whole staff meetings and training. This should continue to ensure that they achieve their vision to improve.

What the service could do better

During the inspection we identified areas where we considered that the service could improve. We discussed these with the managers and owner during our feedback session.

We saw that the service had good systems in place to engage with parents and to offer them opportunities to offer suggestions and give feedback on the nursery. We would encourage them to investigate more innovative ways to involve both parents and children to become more involved in the quality assurance of the work of the nursery.

Staff worked together in effective teams. They were accustomed to observing each other's practice and giving feedback. To help sustain improvement they should now consider how to make their expectations of each other higher and more challenging.

We looked at the learning journeys for some of the children. We saw that the quality of the information in these varied. The managers and the senior staff in each room should support staff and help them develop their skills in recording children's learning and identifying their next steps.

The service should continue to create links with the local school to provide a positive experience for children moving from nursery into primary one.

We were confident that through continuing self evaluation and high expectations the nursery will continue to develop and improve.

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 Mar 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
6 Jan 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
16 Jan 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
11 Jan 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
23 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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