

Belmont House School Nursery Day Care of Children

Sandringham Avenue
Newton Mearns
Glasgow
G77 5DU

Telephone: 0141 639 2922

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 24 November 2017

Service provided by:
Belmont House School Limited

Service provider number:
SP2003003579

Care service number:
CS2003017001

About the service

This service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Belmont House School Nursery is part of Belmont House School which is an independent, co-educational whole through school from 3 years to 18 years. The service is based within the school campus and provides early learning and childcare to a maximum of 32 children from three years to not yet attending primary.

The provider is Belmont House School Limited, the nursery worked in partnership with East Renfrewshire Council.

Children had access to a large playroom along with various outdoor play spaces around the school grounds. They also made very good use of the wider school facilities including the gym, music room and art room.

The service aims and objectives include:

'Encourage all pupils to reach their potential and to strive for personal excellence'.

A full copy of the aims and objectives can be obtained from the service.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure that they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach by inspecting care services for children.

The 'getting it right for every child'

(GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It is a consistent way for people who work with all children and young people. This approach has been introduced by the Scottish Government and helps practitioners focus on what makes a difference for children and young people and how they can act to deliver these improvements. GIRFEC is being threaded through all policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families. In Scotland, the GIRFEC approach puts wellbeing at the heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included, often referred to as SHANARRI.

What people told us

We observed children playing and having fun, children shared their experiences and told us what they liked playing with. They also spent time outdoors in the garden playing with loose parts. Children told us:

"I'm making apple soup"

"I like playing outside and jumping"

"I am having snack we pick our own"

"It's good here to play with your friends"

"I really like playing outside".

We sent out 10 care standards questionnaires before the inspection and eight were returned. All eight parents 'strongly agreed' overall they were happy with the quality of care their child received at the service.

Comments included:

'Each child is special and the staff provide excellent feedback. Well done to all the Belmont Nursery staff'

'Very happy with the service provided'

'The nursery has first class music facilities'

'I truly believe that Belmont currently has a great team of teachers who compliment each other really well'.

Self assessment

All services, with the exception of childminders, have not been asked to provide a self assessment for the year 2017-18. We have referred to the most recent self assessment provided by the service and reviewed the service improvement plan. We found that they had a clear vision for how they would continue to support and care for the children and families using the centre.

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

Staff at Belmont House School Nursery provided children and families with a welcoming and inclusive environment where children could play and learn, children were engaging in a range of experiences and they benefited from being part of the wider Belmont House School. The service had a positive ethos and staff had established good relationships with the families using the service. There were clear procedures in place for protecting children. This contributed to children being safe and nurtured.

We saw positive interaction between staff and children, staff were very responsive to children and created an environment where children had a voice and their interests and ideas were used to make plans. Staff knew the individual needs of children well, children's profiles showed progress and development. The staff were continuing to review children's personal plans and profiles. We saw children playing and having fun both indoors and outdoors. Children enjoyed outdoor play experiences in the garden, they enjoyed loose parts and playing with the mud and the fallen leaves using their imagination. Staff were continuing to extend children's experiences through developing their knowledge of best practice and taking forward their own training and development.

Staff were committed to their own professional development, the development of staff skills was contributing to improving outcomes for children and extending their experiences. For example staff were reflecting on the environment for children and had plans in place to review and develop the playroom from the children's perspective. Staff were taking on leadership roles and taking forward specific areas of development including literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

What the service could do better

To ensure the safe storage of medication the provider should review the policy and recording procedures for the safe storage of medication (see recommendation 1).

To prevent the spread of infection the service should review the storage within the staff toilet. They should also consider infection control procedures in relation to the children's toilets and location of the snack area.

Consideration could be given to the flow of the day and further opportunities for extended free play. Children enjoyed playing outside, the staff could further consider the 'My world outdoors' guidance when planning more opportunities for children to engage in the natural environment. Ensuring children have the correct outerwear will allow them to play and explore freely with a range of materials. The staff were also encouraging independence skills for children getting ready to play outside..

The service had clear procedures in place for the safe recruitment of staff. They should ensure that when taking up references for new staff they follow the safer recruitment procedures (see recommendation 2).

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. As a matter of best practice the service should review their procedures for the safe storage and administration of medication.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16 Standard 3 Health and wellbeing.

2. As a matter of best practice the service should review the procedures for safer recruitment of staff to ensure they follow the procedures within the safer recruitment policy.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16 Standard 14 A well-managed service.

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	
24 Oct 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
27 Oct 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
30 Mar 2009	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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