

Stockbridge After School Club Day Care of Children

Stockbridge Primary School
17 Hamilton Place
Edinburgh
EH3 5BA

Telephone: 0131 332 9494

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 19 December 2016

Service provided by:
Stockbridge After School Club a Scottish
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Service provider number:
SP2013012202

Care service number:
CS2013321743

About the service

Stockbridge After School Club (the club) has been registered since 2014. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 30 children currently attending primary school. The club operates from an annex within the grounds of Stockbridge Primary School, which is situated in a residential area of Edinburgh. The premises are shared with the school. The main playground and gym hall provide opportunities for physical play.

The aims and objectives of the service are:

"To offer after school and in-service daycare to children of Stockbridge Primary school aged up to 12 years.
To offer opportunities for play that are both fun and challenging.
To promote dignity, privacy, choice, safety, potential and diversity of all users and staff of the club."

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure that they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. We check that services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by the Scottish Government GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and what they can act to improve. GIRFEC is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are often referred to as 'SHANARRI', - safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included - We use the indicators at inspection to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

From April 2016, we will carry out a quality audit, to gather information relating to 'How Good Is Our School Aged Childcare'. The audit will focus on the quality of children and young people's play experiences and how their rights to play and have fun are promoted and protected. The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) framework - SHANARRI, Playwork Principles and Article 31 will underpin a list of outcome-focused questions developed for inspectors to work from when inspecting. The information gathered will form the basis of an end of year report 2017, along with information on service demand for school aged childcare throughout Scotland. Further information can be found at The Hub at www.careinspectorate.com

What people told us

We observed the children enjoying the activities and experiences on offer to them. We observed them to be relaxed and confident in their interactions with staff. We spoke with some of the children who told us they enjoyed being with their friends, playing games, and making things.

Carers include parents, guardians and relatives. They do not include care staff.

We sent ten care standard questionnaires for distribution to people who use the service and four were returned to us prior to the inspection. They gave carers the opportunity to comment on how the service performed. The feedback we received was very positive about the way staff communicate and how they care for and support the individual needs of the children.

Comments from parents and carers included:

"My two children are very happy at the after school club. One of my children have recently been diagnosed with an illness and their approach to my child's care is excellent. I feel very confident in leaving my children at the club and I know that they will have fun and be well looked after.

Both my children are happy in the setting. I have great confidence that staff make an effort to understand and work with my children, (as opposed to working on/fixing their personalities) and treat them as individuals. They have worked hard to earn the trust and respect from children. I am also pleased with the variety of activities and games to further develop their "soft skills" (social skills), playing board games with them when other children may not be interested."

A parent we spoke with during our visit told us:

"Everything is fine my child has been at the club since P1 and is now in P7. My child enjoys being here and never wants to leave. There are lots of activities and a lot of sports. I have no complaints and I am very happy everything is perfect."

Self assessment

The provider completed a self-assessment that identified what they thought they did well, with areas for improvement and changes they planned. This was used to help inform the inspection.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Particular strengths of the service were the caring and supportive environment and how staff were meeting children's needs.

We looked at a sample of the children's records and found relevant information to support the welfare of the children. This included specific health care plans and the service's new initiative, e learning journals. These were used to capture and record children's achievements and progress and were shared with children and their parents. There was a need for this information to be developed further and to be reviewed with parents at least every six months.

Health and wellbeing was given significant importance. Children were learning about healthy lifestyles. They told us about the healthy snacks they had at the club, stating "We do not have many sweet things, but have a lot of fruit and vegetables." The children spoke to us about the club being a 'nut free zone' and the rules they followed about sharing food, with the knowledge of others having allergies and keeping themselves safe. We saw

children carry out good hand hygiene practices. Children had daily opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise. These opportunities helped to ensure children were active and engaged.

Children were learning about relationships and friendships, this included taking responsibility for their own actions, sharing and taking turns. There were a few general issues with behaviour, which the manager dealt with appropriately. We saw children were offered opportunities to be competitive on their own and in groups. Children told us they enjoyed taking part in community competitions, they were praised for their efforts and were encouraged to display their achievements. As a result children were doing their best, they were confident and having fun in a supportive environment.

Children had opportunities to learn about wellbeing and rights. They had used the wellbeing wheel and SHANARRI indicators to discuss these and display their thoughts and suggestion, in writing and through drawings. We saw children's were asked through a survey, if they felt listened to and included. Some comments were negative, with children stating 'no'. We discussed with the manager, a positive way to respond would be to continue with the promotion of wellbeing, children's rights and respect, through projects and to consider how these can be part of children's personal plan reviews.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found very good systems were in place to keep the environment and children safe.

The facilities used by the club were shared spaces. The staff were vigilant and carried out daily checks of the environment to maintain the safety of the children. Any concerns were reported to the school to address and a record of action taken was kept. We found the playroom used by the children to be suitably ventilated, bright and stimulating for the children.

Parents and visitors had to be given access to the building by staff via an intercom buzzer system. A record of any visitors was kept by the service. The head teacher told us the Local authority were in the process of updating the entry system to ensure children's safety.

Children told us they have lots of games and activities to do. They said the staff were really nice and that they included their ideas. Children described the wide range of activities on offer during outdoor play, this included sports activities they were involved in and enjoyed. Children were free to choose other items they wanted to play with from the storage unit. This gave children freedom and supported their independence. Staff were responsive to the children interests and played a range of physical games with them.

We saw staff were alert and very observant about children safety. They used 'walkie talkie's' as a means of good communication between staff indoors and outdoors. Children wore visible vests during outdoor play to ensure they were well seen. Children were made aware of their boundaries and rules for both areas. Children were able to describe how they kept themselves safe. They talked about listening to the adults outdoors and ensuring they did not go near the car park area. One child said the "top reason the staff are good is they keep us safe." We talked to the manager about involving children in carrying out risk assessments within the indoor and outdoor environments. To create opportunities for children to look at and assess risks within the club.

The staff had worked with the children on health and safety projects. They were looking at the importance of keeping safe, such as, fire safety, strangers and internet safety - 'keeping safe while online'. This created an opportunity to strengthen safety indoors and outdoors with the children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

The club had introduced a key worker system so that all children and their families had a point of contact to whom they can communicate with. In addition, staff worked on a rota basis where they were involved in every area of the service. This helped them to get to know each child individually.

We saw staff communicated and engaged well with children. They listened and respected the children's views, and opinions. Children told us, about the staff being helpful, nice and kind. They said the staff were 'funny and humorous'. Children explained staff had good ideas and if they were feeling down they would help them sort it out. We found feedback directly to the club from parents, showed they were impressed with how staff actively engaged with their children, playing games and helping them to develop skills.

Staff were actively involved in their personal development and training plans. They kept a training schedule where they identified their training needs, reflected on their practice and noted gaps in their knowledge. We saw training undertaken had helped support the health needs of the children in their care.

The staff team displayed leadership values by taking responsibility for specific roles and areas of the service. This supported them to provide very good care and outcomes for the children. These roles included, health safety, fire safety, child protection and behaviour management. We could see the staff respected and communicated well with each other, this helped to ensure the wellbeing of children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We saw the manager and staff communicated well and consulted the children during our visit, to gain their ideas and thoughts. Children told us they were consulted and involved in decision making about the club. They were asked what they wanted for snack, what types of arts they wanted to do and to gain their ideas for new equipment. We saw a display wall being developed for Olympic sports this was a suggestion made by the children.

The service valued and encouraged the involvement of parents in the life of the club. Notice boards, and Facebook were used to keep parents well informed of what is happening in the club and of any changes. These systems allowed parents to interact with the club, see what was going on, provide feedback and suggestions for improvements. This good practice ensured parents were kept informed and they felt included. Parents were actively involved in the management committee. They worked together with the manager and staff to support decision making and on going improvements within the service.

We spoke with the head teacher during our visit. She told us they worked closely with the staff and management committee for continuous improvements of the building and maintenance. For example, the new camera entry system soon to be installed. This helped to support the care, safety and wellbeing of the children.

There were some plans and monitoring procedures in place which helped staff to reflect on their own performance and think about how it affected the children and quality of service provided. However we saw planning, evaluating and self-evaluation was not up to date or used to develop an improvement plan for the service. (See recommendation 1).

The manager had not had an opportunity to undertake supervision or a review of her practice. This would support her in leading the staff team and managing the service. (See recommendation 2).

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. Management and staff should continue to explore and further develop their quality assurance systems to help evaluate the quality of the service provided and ensure good outcomes for the children. These should include keeping planning and evaluating up to date and the manager undertaking an appraisal.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 13 - Improving the service & Standard 14 - Well-managed service.

2. The management committee should provide an opportunity for the manager to undertake an appraisal. This would support the manager to reflect on their own performance and think about how it affected the children, staff and quality of service provided.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 13 - Improving the service & Standard 14 - Well-managed service.

Grade: 4 - good

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

The provider should consider using an application form or ways to ensure they have detailed information from applicants with regards to their last employer. The provider should ensure they request two references for all new employees and one should be requested from their last employer. This would help them to ensure their recruitment procedures were robust. National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16 (NCS) 12 Confidence in staff & NCS: 14 Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 9 October 2015.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation had been met.

Recommendation 2

The provider should ensure they have received a PVG for all new employees before they take up employment in the service. NCS 12 Confidence in staff & NCS: 14 Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 9 October 2015.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation had been met.

Complaints

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

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
9 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership 4 - Good

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