

Riverside Out of School Care Day Care of Children

Riverside Primary School
18 Forrest Road
Stirling
FK8 1UJ

Telephone: 01786 449198

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

20 February 2019

Service provided by:

Riverside Out of School Care a Scottish
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Service provider number:

SP2015012550

Service no:

CS2015339716

About the service

Riverside Out of School Care registered with the Care Inspectorate in August 2015. It is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children at any one time between the ages of four and 15 years. The service is a voluntary organisation run by a committee of parents.

The service is located within Riverside Primary School in Stirling. The service is close to the town centre and near to local shops and transport routes.

Care is provided from a designated multi purpose room in the school. Children also have access to a break out area, the gym hall and the outdoor school grounds.

Aims of the service include, advancing children's social and emotional development and education through play, organising recreational activities for children, and enabling parents to access the workplace.

We check that 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

For this inspection we received views from 19 parents whose children attended the service.

All respondents indicated that they were happy with the quality of care their children were receiving. People spoke highly about the welcoming, friendly staff, the variety of snack and the flexibility of the service.

Forty eight children attended the service over the two days that we inspected. All children were happy and busy extending their thinking and learning through high quality play experiences. We spoke with 13 children during the inspection. They told us that they enjoyed coming to the service and all scored it ten out of ten. They commented particularly positively on outdoor play, snack time, friendly funny staff, and the opportunities they were given to make dens.

Self assessment

We did not ask the service to provide us with a self-assessment. Issues relating to quality assurance, acting on the feedback of people using the service, and the quality of the service's improvement plan were considered as part of the inspection.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	6 - Excellent
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children attending the service were happy, settled and busy playing. They told us that they enjoyed coming and spoke positively about the experiences on offer, and the staff who cared for them. One child told us "staff are friendly, I can talk to them. They are quite funny and talk to me about things I'm interested in". Another child told us "I love making dens, I can make them inside, or outside, or in the nature playground, the staff ask us what we want to do".

Children were given excellent opportunities to contribute their views in order to shape the service. For example, all children participated in an annual interview with a member of staff. Their views were recorded and transferred to a visual wall planner. We found that children's views were taken seriously and that experiences offered were tailored to their likes, interests and suggestions. As a result children felt valued and included, and were interested in playing.

Children experienced an outstanding quality of play. It was freely chosen, personally driven and motivational. An excellent variety of equipment and toys supported children to develop their imagination, thinking, problem solving and communication. Much of the equipment that children accessed was natural and open ended, and as such challenged children's thinking and encouraged them to take positive risks which built their resilience. For example, children were hanging from individual hammock cocoons from wooden bars in the gym hall. Outside we saw children problem solving how to transport crates and cable reels on the trailers of their bikes.

Children's health and wellbeing was very well supported by accessing outdoors routinely in all weathers. The school grounds were vast and allowed for different types of play. For example, a concrete pitch appealed to a group of children who wanted to play football, and the nature garden was a more natural play space which supported exploratory play. On the day of our visit it was raining heavily, but children still accessed outdoors.

During holiday clubs children spent less time on conventional trips, and more time exploring nature. As a result they had participated in some wonderful experiences, including fire making, walking in burns etc. These type of experiences support children's understanding of boundaries, capabilities and positive risk taking. Children were developing as healthy, confident individuals.

The service had developed excellent partnerships with the school. They had negotiated access to additional areas of the school, for example the gym hall and school grounds. This variety of play spaces enhanced children's quality of experiences. The out of school club and school also shared a variety of outdoor 'loose parts materials', for example cable reels, tubing, trailers and crates. These types of resources developed children's imagination.

Staff knew children very well. This was reflected in their individual care plans. Appropriate information was gathered about children, which supported staff to plan how to meet their needs. This was reviewed with children annually.

Children and parents highlighted the variety of healthy and nutritious snacks available. Children enjoyed a relaxed unhurried snack and self-selected from an excellent range of food. On the day of the inspection children chose from cereal, fresh fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers. Fruit and drinks were available throughout the session, and we found children eating when they felt hungry. This was responsive to their needs.

What the service could do better

Children's care plans should be updated more regularly to ensure their needs, likes, dislikes and opinions are formally reviewed within each six month period.

The service should continue keeping up to date with good practice guidance, and building on and maintaining the excellent quality of service provided.

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.

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

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
7 Oct 2016	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good

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