

4 December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2018, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate visited The Bridges Nursery - Silverburn Lodge. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and practitioners.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the setting's work.

- Children who enjoy opportunities to make choices and explore the learning environment of the setting.
- The developing quality of the outdoor spaces of the setting which supports children to develop their curiosity through play with natural and open-ended materials.
- The calm, nurturing ethos for babies and toddlers.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager and a representative from Aberdeen City Council.

- Continue to develop practitioners' shared understanding of children's learning to ensure all children experience appropriate depth and challenge in their learning.
- Continue to develop approaches to planning, observation and assessment of children's learning to ensure high quality learning experiences for all children with appropriate support and challenge.
- Using national guidance, develop the use of self-evaluation to ensure a more structured, robust approach to identify what is working well and what needs to improve. Provide further opportunities for practitioners to engage in leadership roles to contribute to the process of improvement.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the settings work using four quality indicators from [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#) Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each setting, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish early learning and childcare settings are doing.

Here are Education Scotland's evaluations for The Bridges Nursery - Silverburn Lodge

| Quality indicators | Evaluation |
|--|---------------------|
| Leadership of change | satisfactory |
| Learning, teaching and assessment | satisfactory |
| Securing children's progress | satisfactory |
| Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion | satisfactory |
| Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: How good is our early learning and childcare? Appendix 1: The six-point scale | |

Here are the Care Inspectorate gradings for the setting

| Care Inspectorate standards | Grade |
|---|-----------------|
| Quality of care and support | adequate |
| Quality of environment | good |
| Quality of staffing | good |
| Quality of management and leadership | adequate |

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the setting

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had no requirements and two recommendations. From these one recommendation has been met. Outstanding issues relating to Care Inspectorate are carried forward in this inspection. As a result of this inspection, there are no requirements and three recommendations.

Recommendations

Quality of staffing

- To improve the quality of children's experiences staff should be supported to reflect on their training and development opportunities and implement the learning from these into practice.
This ensures that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that 'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes'. (HSCS 3.14)

Quality of management and leadership

- To ensure children receive high quality care and early learning experiences management and staff should ensure an effective quality assurance system is developed and implemented in the service.
This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes'. (HSCS 4.19)
- In order to ensure all children are supported to achieve their potential, effective systems should be implemented to monitor children's progress, learning and development.
This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes'. (HSCS 4.19)

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the Education Scotland website at:

<https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/Aberdeen-city/9906128> and the [Care Inspectorate website](#)

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Aberdeen City Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

Gerard McKernan
Managing Inspector

Lorraine Hendry
Care Inspector