

# Inspection Report

## 2023-2024

## Braddan Pre-school

Child Day Care Centre

5 March 2024

**Under the Regulation of Care Act 2013 and  
Regulation of Care (Care Services) Regulations 2013**



**DHSC**

We carried out this inspection under Part 4 of the Regulation of Care Act 2013 (the Act) as part of our regulatory functions. We checked whether the provider was meeting the legal requirements, regulations and standards associated with the Act. We looked at the overall quality of the service.

We carried out this unannounced inspection on 5 March 2024. The inspection was led by an inspector from the Registration and Inspection team.

**Service and service type**

Braddan Pre-school is a child day care centre. This means they provide day care for one or more children under the age of eight for more than two hours in the same day and is not a private dwelling.

**People’s experience of using this service and what we found**

To get to the heart of people’s experiences of care and treatment, we always ask the following five questions:

- Is it safe?
- Is it effective?
- Is it caring?
- Is it responsive to people’s needs?
- Is it well-led?

These questions form the framework for the areas we look at during the inspection.

**Our key findings**

No areas of improvement were identified as a result of this inspection.

Staffing levels were found to be safe and the children were receiving a care service that promoted their holistic development.

The team worked well together and appeared to have a good working relationship. They were happy and enjoyed banter with the children. Although the playroom is big, the team have managed to create a homely environment.

The playgroup has to pack everything away at the end of each session but the team have sourced portable equipment that enables them to be able to display the children’s work and decorate the room to ensure the environment is welcoming.

The feedback we received was positive. The parent told us ‘the staff are lovely’ and the ‘the women who run the nursery are fantastic with the children’. The parent felt the staff knew her child ‘very well’ and in response to being asked if she was happy with the care being provided, the parent stated ‘absolutely’.

### **About the service**

Braddan Pre-school provides sessional, term time care from a hall in Braddan Church. They are registered to care for 40 children aged 2-5 years. The setting has a large playroom, a small playroom, toilets and a kitchen. All areas are shared with other users but the pre-school has sole use of the playrooms during operating times.

Due to the pre-school's operating hours, children do not have lunch at the setting but are provided with a mid-morning snack.

### **Registered manager status**

The service has a registered manager. This means that they and the provider are legally responsible for how the service is run and for the quality and safety of the care provided.

### **Notice of Inspection**

This inspection was part of our annual inspection programme which took place between April 2023 and March 2024. Inspection activity started on 4 March 2024 and an unannounced inspection was undertaken on 5 March 2024.

### **What we did before the inspection**

We reviewed information we received about the service since the last inspection. We used the information the provider sent us in the provider information return (PIR) and supporting documentation, notifications, complaints/compliments and any safeguarding issues.

Feedback was sourced via email from ten families who use the service. One response was received.

### **During the inspection**

An inspection of the premises was undertaken and a range of documentation was reviewed. This included policies, attendance registers, supervision records, children's records and documentation in relation to health and safety. We also spoke with the registered manager and member of staff on duty.

**Our findings:**

Safe – this means we looked for evidence that children were protected from abuse and avoidable harm. The service does not require any improvements in this area.

This service was found to be safe.

**Staffing ratios and recruitment**

Evidence was available to show that all staff at the setting held a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and that regular checks were being undertaken on those that have signed up for the update service.

Staffing levels were observed to be safe and in keeping with the required adult: child ratios. Examination of the setting's attendance records showed ratios have been consistently maintained on other days.

No staff have been recruited since the setting's last inspection but the registered manager was aware that all required pre-employment checks would need to be undertaken prior to a new member of staff commencing at the setting.

The system in place for recording the training attended by the staff team showed all mandatory training was up to date and the team had attended additional training in order to extend their knowledge.

**Improvements lessons learned**

The registered manager informed us staff have been given copies of the setting's policies and procedures to ensure they are aware of their responsibility to raise and report any concerns they have and to record safety incidents.

Staff confirmed they have been made aware and explained this is reiterated in the setting's policies. They also told us the registered manager is always available for them to discuss any concerns they have.

## Inspection Findings

### C2 Is the service effective?

#### **Our findings**

Effective – this means we looked for evidence that children’s care, learning and development are supported and achieving good outcomes. The service does not require any improvements in this area.

This service was found to be effective.

#### **Supporting and developing children’s care and development needs**

As part of supporting the children’s developmental needs we spent time assessing how the staff team are developing the children’s awareness of right and wrong in keeping with their age and level of understanding.

The setting had an up to date Behaviour policy in place that outlined their approach to managing the children’s behaviour. The manager told us ‘the children are encouraged by the team to practice good manners’ and ‘to respect each other’s belongings as well as the playgroup’s toys and equipment’.

Staff were vigilant and proactive in regards to defusing any possible situations before they escalated. They were quick to step in and distract the children, sometimes encouraging them to become involved in a different activity. They gave lots of praise and encouragement and took time to give clear, age appropriate explanations to the children when needed.

## Inspection Findings

### C3 Is the service caring?

#### **Our findings**

Caring – this means we looked for evidence that the service involved and treated children with compassion, kindness, dignity and respect. The service does not require any improvements in this area.

This service was found to be caring.

#### **Ensuring children are being treated with kindness, respect and compassion**

The staff team were caring and respectful to the children and treated them with kindness and compassion. The children were relaxed with the team and their actions showed they were comfortable in their presence.

There was lots of conversations taking place and staff were heard using language that was appropriate to the ages and level of understanding of the children. The responses made by staff members also demonstrated they were actively listening and interested in what the children were saying.

#### **Maintaining children's dignity, privacy and promoting independence**

Staff were observed promoting the children's independence throughout the inspection. They encouraged the children to make their own choices in regards to what activities they wanted to participate in and what toys they played with and were respectful of the choices made.

The registered manager had ensured the information provided by the parents in regards to their children's preferences and needs had been shared with the staff team. This ensured the team were able to respond appropriately to each child's individual needs.

## Inspection Findings

### C4 Is the service responsive?

#### **Our findings:**

Responsive – this means we looked for evidence that the service met children’s needs. The service does not require any improvements in this area.

This service was found to be responsive.

#### **Delivering personalised care**

Prior to children starting at the setting, parents are asked to provide information about their child. This helps the team to be aware of each child’s needs as they get to know them. This information has enabled the staff team to value the uniqueness of each child and have high expectations of what can be achieved.

Staff undertake planning for the children. As well as using the information provided by the parents and their own knowledge of the children. They also ask the children what activities they would like to include in the planning. This has enabled them to devise and include activities based on the children’s interests.

All resources available to the children had been arranged to enable them to make their own choices about what they wanted to play with and staff were observed encouraging children to negotiate with each other when the same resource was wanted by another child.

## Inspection Findings

### C5 Is the service well-led?

#### **Our findings**

Well-led – this means we looked for evidence that service leadership, management and governance assured high-quality, person-centred care; supported learning and innovation; and promoted an open, fair culture. The service does not require any improvements in this area.

This service was found to be well-led.

#### **Clear vision and strategy in place to deliver high-quality care and promote a positive culture that is person-centred, open, inclusive and empowering which achieves good outcomes for children.**

During this inspection we spent time observing the relationships between the staff team. The team is well established and have worked together for a number of years and were positive about working at the playgroup. We observed the team working well together, sharing tasks fairly and being supportive of each other.

To date there has not been any conflict between the team but staff were confident people would work together to address any issues in order to resolve any disagreements. The registered manager told us she works with the team every day and this allows her the opportunity to monitor staff relationships.

#### **Governance framework in place that ensures responsibilities are clear and that quality performance, risks and regulatory requirements are understood and managed.**

The registered manager is also the setting's responsible person and she demonstrated a clear understanding of the responsibilities and regulatory requirements of both roles.

Regular audits are being undertaken on staff performance and the environment. Accident forms are regularly audited in order to identify any themes. We were informed actions would be taken should anything be highlighted as a result of the audits.

The setting has not had cause to notify the Registration and Inspection team of any infectious illnesses or serious incidents since the last inspection. The registered manager was clear in her understanding of when and how to notify the regulator.

#### **Continuous learning, improvement, innovation and ensuring sustainability.**

The registered manager has ensured there are a range of opportunities available to the staff team to enable them to extend their knowledge and skills and drive improvement. Staff are given information about courses facilitated by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture and in-house training sessions are offered on a range of topics.

If areas of improvement have been identified the provider will be required to produce an action plan detailing how the areas of improvement will be rectified within the timescales identified. The R&I team will follow up and monitor any actions undertaken.