

Newtongrange Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Sixth Street
Newtongrange
Dalkeith
EH22 4LB

Telephone: school 0131 271 4645 and Nursery 0131 271 4646

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

19 November 2018

Service provided by:

Midlothian Council

Service provider number:

SP2003002602

Service no:

CS2003016403

About the service

The nursery is located within part of the local Primary School. It is situated in the town of Newtongrange. The nursery consists of two playrooms and a fully enclosed garden. The children can access the toilet areas from within the main room. The staff can also access an enclosed kitchen area. It also has the benefit of its own entrance and cloakroom area for the children and parents.

The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 60 children between the ages of three years and entry into primary school.

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 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 do to improve. GIRFEC is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children. Information on SHANARRI can be found at www.scotland.gov.uk.

What people told us

We observed children throughout the inspection and found them to be happy and confident in their environment. Most were engaged in their play and able to move freely between the indoor and outdoor areas. Children interacted confidently with staff, approaching them for support when they needed it.

We sent twenty five Care Standards Questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents. Four of these were returned to us before the inspection took place. Most parents agreed with the statement "Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service. In addition we spoke to three parents in the process of the inspection.

Comments included:

"The kids never go on any trips or outings also in the nursery there is not enough staff on sometimes to look after all the kids".

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We considered their own improvement plans and quality assurance processes. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

What the service does well

Children were happy, involved and having fun during the inspection. We saw that staff knew the children and their families well. This approach improved families sense of belonging and inclusion within the nursery.

The nursery playroom was bright, well maintained, had good quality furniture, and resources. Staff had worked hard to ensure areas within the nursery were organised to maximise the use of space and allowed children to access resources and activities. This meant that children's independence and choice were encouraged and supported.

Some staff used their skills and knowledge to create an inclusive and nurturing environment. Children and their families were welcome, listened to, valued and respected. We were able to see children were confident about expressing their thoughts, views and feelings and making choices and decisions about what they wanted to do and play with during the session.

Children's health and wellbeing was promoted by regular free-flow access to the outdoor area. Children were having great fun investigating and exploring outdoors. Children used this area well during the inspection. We saw them having fun using the bikes, cars and other outdoor resources.

Snack was healthy and independence promoted as children helped themselves to food and a drink.

What the service could do better

Although we found some issues during the inspection, better outcomes for children were identified on the second day of our visit. We are confident that the management team will address the issues raised in this report. Staff should begin to work together and ensure they are aware of current best practice within early education and childcare and use this to support good quality outcomes for all children.

We will follow up on the progress of this at the next inspection.

We discussed with the management team that to improve outcomes for children the service should:
Review planning to ensure that learning experiences provided for the children have sufficient breadth, depth and challenge. Evaluations should focus on children's progress and consolidate individual learning.
Floor books should be further developed to ensure that children are provided with opportunities to talk and reflect on their learning.

Inspection report

Staff should understand the importance of recording significant learning through meaningful observations. This would allow staff to identify relevant next steps and plan for children's future development and learning.

Although children were engaged and involved in their play some staff did not support this appropriately. Staff should begin to develop appropriate challenge for the children through effective questioning and interaction. The management team were aware that this could be further developed to ensure more consistency across the staff team.

The development of Loose Parts play has been a recent focus within the nursery environment. This should continue to be developed throughout the nursery and garden area to enhance a richer learning environment and support children to use their imagination, problem solve and be creative.

The nursery have recently introduced a new care plan system. They need to now ensure that health and wellbeing needs of all children are discussed and documented regularly in their care plan. This would allow them to plan for children who require additional support. Strategies of support should be discussed as a team and regularly evaluated to identify any progress made. This will help meet the individual needs of the children and identify where further support may be required.

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.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
15 Dec 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	Not assessed
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
26 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
27 Mar 2012	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 4 - Good
6 Mar 2012	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 1 - Unsatisfactory
18 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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