

Simpson Primary School Nursery Class

Day Care of Children

Simpson Primary School
Leyland Road
Wester Inch Village
Bathgate
EH48 2SG

Telephone: 01506 656371

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 31 January 2017

Service provided by:
West Lothian Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002601

Care service number:
CS2007155334

About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com.

This service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Simpson Primary School Nursery Class was provided by West Lothian Council to provide early learning and childcare to a maximum of 80 children from three years to not yet attending primary school, during term time only. The children attended either a morning or afternoon session.

The service was provided within Simpson Primary School within a residential area of Bathgate. The children had access to a large spacious playroom and a large outdoor space accessible straight from the playroom. The service also made use of the wider school grounds and the gym hall.

The service aims and objectives included:

To ensure all pupils are able to realise their full potential by promoting and recognising achievement and excellence in all areas through the development of their talents and abilities.

A full copy of the aims and objectives can be obtained from the centre.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure that they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach by inspecting care services for children. The 'getting it right for every child' (GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It is a consistent way for people who work with all children and young people. This approach has been introduced by the Scottish Government and helps practitioners focus on what makes a difference for children and young people and how they can act to deliver these improvements. GIRFEC is being threaded through all policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families. In Scotland, the GIRFEC approach puts wellbeing at the heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included, often referred to as SHANARRI.

At this inspection we focused on the care and support of children and the environment.

What people told us

We sent 20 care standards questionnaires to the service and 12 were returned before the inspection. We also spoke with children and parents. Comments included:

'My child settled very quickly into the nursery, due to the fantastic staff at Simpson Nursery'

'Friendly approachable staff'

'Well done Simpson nursery 10/10'

'I cannot praise Simpson Nursery Class highly enough'

'The nursery is well run and children know what is expected of them'

'Despite the fact this is a very busy nursery I believe every child is treated as an individual'

'As parents we could not be happier with the care, education that my child has received'.

Eleven parents 'strongly agreed' and one parent 'agreed' overall they were happy with the quality of care their child received at the service.

We spoke with groups of children and they shared their experience about the activities and relationships within the centre.

Self assessment

We received a fully completed self assessment document from the service provider before the inspection. We were satisfied with the way the service provider had completed this and with the relevant information they had given us for each of the headings that we grade them under.

The service provider identified what they thought they did well, some areas for development and any changes they planned. The service provider told us how the people who used the care service had taken part in the self assessment process.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

The staff at Simpson Primary School Nursery Class provided a welcoming, inclusive environment where family links were at the centre of their ethos. They provided innovative ways of including the whole family in the life of the centre, they also considered all aspects of family life and the way in which they could involve extended family and working parents. Parents felt highly involved, we observed strong relationships between keyworkers and parents and communication throughout the centre was highly effective which ensured good family links. The centre had received recognition within the local authority for their best practice in relation to family involvement and they had shared their practice with other centres.

We saw high quality interaction between staff and children. Children were highly engaged in the play environment both indoors and outdoors and staff supported children to be independent, develop relationships and express themselves through their play experiences. Children with additional support needs were supported very well and staff worked closely with children to ensure they were reaching their potential. Children were supported by a highly skilled staff team who worked with parents and other professionals to ensure children's health and wellbeing needs were met.

Staff were competent at ensuring children were safe and protected. Staff had attended training on GIRFEC and child protection which ensured they had the right skills and knowledge. The service had comprehensive procedures in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children. They shared information with families about child protection and they had an open door policy and welcoming environment for families.

Staff were enthusiastic and skilled at providing a range of rich outdoor play experiences for children. Children were highly engaged in the outdoor play area and they were enjoying splashing in puddles, playing in dens, running and playing in groups. They were learning about managing risk and being safe in the outdoor environment. Staff promoted independence and children could play and explore in a safe, secure environment. There were loose parts available and a range of challenging resources where the children were using their imagination and developing their skills we saw there were opportunities for children to reinforce counting, literacy and mark making outdoors, a storytelling area outdoors was a nice place for children to enjoy stories in a quiet space. Children benefited from the range of skills they developed in the outdoor area. We also saw that children were working as a team, co-operating and developing leadership skills. Parents commended staff for the range of outdoor play experiences they provided for children, and parents got involved in helping with resources and maintaining and developing the outdoor play area.

What the service could do better

The staff were continually working together to assess outcomes for children to develop and improve their provision. We asked the staff to review my world outdoors, best practice guidance for outdoor play. Staff were highly motivated to take forward any suggestions and improvements.

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	
13 Jun 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
7 Jan 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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