

Stonelaw Preschool Group Day Care of Children

Stonelaw Church of Scotland
2 Dryburgh Avenue
Rutherglen
Glasgow
G73 3EG

Telephone: 0141 6473777

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 20 January 2017

Service provided by:
Stonelaw Preschool Group

Service provider number:
SP2014012287

Care service number:
CS2014325167

About the service

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

This service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 14 August 2014.

Stonelaw Preschool Group is situated within Stonelaw Church in the Rutherglen area of South Lanarkshire. The service has access to the large hall, two smaller halls and an outdoor area.

Stonelaw Preschool Group is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 24 children aged from 3 to not yet attending primary school.

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

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (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 services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included, also known as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

What people told us

Children were observed to be happy, relaxed and comfortable in the surroundings. They responded positively to staff. Most children were very engaging and confident when speaking with us.

We had nine Care Standards Questionnaires completed and returned to us during our inspection. We also received feedback from six parents/carers by email. Two staff questionnaires were also returned. Overall parents were happy with their child's care. Comments from parents included:

"The staff appear genuinely concerned about the children in their care. I believe they could liaise better with the Church to get some areas updated. The toilets and waiting area are not very inviting", "My child's interests have been explored and developed at the nursery. The staff have taken the time to discover the quirks of her personality and how to encourage her to get involved in a wide range of activities including those that would not be her first choice. When she is not in the frame of mind to take part in something the staff know her well enough to use various tactics/strategies to draw her into an activity. I can evidence of my child's learning in the floor book where her ideas and work within topics are clearly displayed. The floor books also show how my child has enjoyed exploring the topics and how involved she has become in the process", "I am kept informed about what is going on in the service by the monthly news letter, emails from the manager, notices at the sign in sheet and one to one conversations with the staff at pick up or drop off. The staff are always available to discuss with you how my child has been that day at pick up and you are always able to discuss queries at drop off as well", "The staff are very nurturing and instinctive with the children, I can tell that they are highly experienced with this age group. If there has been any issues, such as a toilet accident it has been dealt with sensitively and respectfully", "If he has had a fall etc they give him a cuddle make sure he is ok, reassure him he will be ok and give an update at the end of the day. I love the fact that the nursery 'nurture' the children to an extent as they are still babies and sometimes all they want is a big cuddle and to be told everything is alright. I like to think that if my child has hurt himself as his mum/dad cannot be there to comfort him someone else he trusts can", "The new garden is fantastic and the children visit almost every day (when the weather is good enough). The range of outdoor activities and toys is very good. They make frequent trips to the park too".

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment from the service. This was completed by the manager. The self-assessment gave examples of improvements they had implemented as well as areas for development. The management team spoke with us about their plans for these improvements.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	3 - Adequate
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children were confident and happy in the service. They were aware of the routine and able to follow instructions. Some children required additional support from staff to be actively involved in the routine. Staff were caring and kind towards children. They listened to and responded to their requests when children sought them out. They had created a nurturing and supportive environment.

Staff and children were learning Makaton to include children who needed support with their communication. This was good as it created an inclusive ethos and valued children as individuals. They also used picture boards to support children to play an active role in their own day at nursery.

Personal plans were in place for children and parents had given their input. They used target sheets to identify the next steps in learning for children. The service had used questionnaires and floor books to consult with families about how the service is provided and identify gaps. This was good as it showed parents and children's voices were valued and listened too.

Staff advised of the changes to their planning for children's learning and development. Children's experiences were varied with opportunities for extending their learning and challenging their development. We discussed the quality of the information being recorded and how this could be further improved so that all children's learning and development needs were being tracked (see recommendation 1).

We found the services performance was good for this theme.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. Personal plans and planning for children's learning and development should include information that is meaningful, reflective of their needs and have planned next steps to achieve.

National Care Standard: 5 Early Education and Learning up to the age of 16 - Quality of experience

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The service had a secure door front entry system in place. They had established new risk assessments and protocols since the last inspection. They have involved children in assessing risk and solutions to minimise the risk with one child advising to 'tell mummies and daddies that children aren't allowed to answer the door'.

Considering the staff have to dismantle the playrooms on a daily basis, they have managed to keep the space for children to play, bright and interesting with displays of children's work. They were organised for the different age groups using the service, creating quiet, cosy and busier areas for individuals to freely move around in. Resources were easily accessible for children and they were able to ask for other items if they wanted them.

Some significant changes had taken place to the access and the resources of the outdoor area. This meant that children now had access to a safe and stimulating space. Children could now choose when they would like to play outside. They had access to natural materials, a mud kitchen, a rope pull with tyres and space for wheeled toys. Children were encouraged to self-help at snack time and water was available throughout the day. Staff, parents and children advised us of the difference this has made to the service and how much they all enjoyed it.

The toilets used by children in the small room needed some refurbishment to get them to an acceptable standard (see requirement 1).

We found the services performance was adequate for this theme.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 1

1. The provider must ensure that the following issues concerning the toilet within the small room are addressed:
 - The signs of dampness in the toilet should be investigated and eliminated
 - The toilet must be heated to a comfortable temperature
 - Upgrading the décor of the room

This is in order to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210), regulation 10(2)(b)(c)(d).

Timescale for meeting this Requirement: 3 months from receipt of this report.

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 3 – adequate

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Staff in the nursery were aware of best practice guidelines. They engaged in professional dialogue with us and were enthusiastic in advising us on how the service had developed since the last inspection. Staff were keen to provide a good service for children and their families. We observed staff supporting and having fun with the children. Parents advised of the good relationships they had built with staff.

Staff we spoke with were able to identify where the service could make improvements and were keen to be part of this development. Some advised of their increase in confidence due to their recent training. They were able to demonstrate how aspects of their training had made a positive impact on children's experiences. Staff advised that they were encouraged to take an active role in the service and this was evident within staff meeting minutes. There were some new members to the staff team.

The service had followed safer recruitment procedures. Staff were registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and were aware of their responsibilities regarding codes of conduct and Child Protection.

We had discussions around the pace of the day and the guidance given to the service by South Lanarkshire Council (SLC). Staff had incorporated the practice into their day. We discussed how this should be monitored so as not to have a negative impact of children's choice of experiences. We will be looking at this with the service and SLC.

We found the services performance was good for this theme.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 – good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

The management committee had went through some changes recently but advised that these changes had a positive impact on the service. The manager was keen to make sure parents are kept informed and up-to-date with changes in legislation as well as changes within the service. She had monitored staff practice on the floor, children's experiences and how the playrooms were being used. This had led to improvements. The services development plan had detailed and realistic action points for the service to achieve.

Staff were encouraged to access best practice guidance and legislation to inform their practice. They were also encouraged to share good practice and knowledge. Appraisals took place on a regular basis and staff were able to identify professional and personal learning opportunities. The manager keeps a training and monitoring calendar for an overview of evaluating the service.

They worked well with other agencies involved with children. The manager had been invited to give a presentation to group in SLC regarding Building The Ambition and how they have implemented it within their service. A standards and quality report is submitted to SLC covering areas for development within the service.

The manager and a representative from the management committee attend the church committee meetings to address and highlight any concerns or issues as well as to share information about upcoming events.

We found the services performance was good for this theme.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

Requirement 1

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure:

- robust risk assessments are completed for the door exit/entry. This must also consider how the risk of children gaining access to the street can be minimised. Risk assessments must be updated following any significant incident.
- staff roles and responsibilities are clearly identified. In particular the roles of staff should the door alarm sound.

This is to comply with: The Scottish Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011. SSI 2011/ 210 Regulation 4 (1) (a) Welfare of Service User.

Timescale for implementation: Within one month of receipt of this letter.

This requirement was made on 13 October 2016.

Action taken on previous requirement

Systems have been put in place for staff to check the door when the alarm is sounding. Risk Assessments in place for doors. Children involved in assessing the risk and solutions to minimise the risk. Individual risk assessments are in place for children who have particular issues in this area.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 2

The provider must ensure the Care Inspectorate is notified of all notifiable incidents within the specified period, usually 24 hours.

This is in order to comply with The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (Requirements for Care Services) Order: SSI 2011/210 regulation 4(1)(a) - a requirement that the provider shall make proper provision for the health and welfare of service users.

Timescale on receipt of this letter.

This requirement was made on 13 October 2016.

Action taken on previous requirement

The service has since reported notifiable events to us within timescales.

Met - within timescales

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

1. The management team should investigate solutions with the landlord as to the use of the large hall and small rooms.

National Care Standard: 2 Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A Safe Environment

This recommendation was made on 26 October 2015.

Action taken on previous recommendation

A meeting was held with the landlord. At present there are no changes to the use of the rooms due to other groups being held. The service will liaise with the landlord if this position changes in future. Therefore this recommendation will be seen as met.

Recommendation 2

The management team should draw up clear guidelines as to how and when they can access the toilets when the large hall is in use by other groups.

National Care Standard: 2 Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A Safe Environment

This recommendation was made on 26 October 2015.

Action taken on previous recommendation

An agreement is in place between the service and other groups as to the use of the toilets in the large hall. This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 3

The management team should investigate how to make the outdoor space safe and suitable for children to access.

National Care Standard: 2 Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A Safe Environment

This recommendation was made on 26 October 2015.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The outdoor space has been refurbished. The access to the outdoor space has also been refurbished. This recommendation has been met.

Complaints

Please see Care Inspectorate website (www.careinspectorate.com) for details of complaints about the service which have been upheld.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gratings	
7 Sep 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

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