

Paradykes Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

3 Mayburn Walk
Loanhead
EH20 9HG

Telephone: 0131 440 2352

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 28 February 2017

Service provided by:
Midlothian Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002602

Care service number:
CS2003016404

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.

We carried out a quality themed inspection. This targeted approach means that we looked at identified aspects focusing on children's experiences under two quality themes - Care and Support and Environment.

Paradykes Primary School Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children per session between the age of three and those not yet attending primary school. The service is provided by Midlothian Council.

The nursery is based in the grounds of Paradykes Primary School in Loanhead and operates five days per week during term time. Children have access to two large playrooms and there was a designated welcome area and cloakroom. A secure door entry system was in place and the service was well maintained throughout. There was also a secure and well resourced outdoor play area which was accessed directly from one of the playrooms.

A full aims and objectives statement was available to people using the service.

This report was written following an unannounced inspection which took place on Tuesday 28 February 2017 between 1045 and 1345 hours. The inspection was carried out by an inspector from the Care Inspectorate. Feedback was given to the depute manager and the senior child development worker on the same day as the inspection visit. There were 31 children in the service during the morning and 30 in the afternoon.

As requested by us the service completed an annual return and a self assessment document.

During the inspection we gathered evidence from different sources. We spoke with the manager, depute manager, senior childcare development worker, three staff and ten children.

We looked at the service's self assessment, health and safety records including infection control, risk assessments, medication, care standards questionnaires, children's files, personal plans and learning journals, child protection case file management, additional support needs plans and paperwork, registration certificate and insurance certificate.

We observed staff's childcare practice, the environment, equipment and outdoor area.

All of the above information was taken into account and reported on under the relevant quality themes within this report.

What people told us

We issued 12 care standard questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents/carers of children who used the service. We received eight completed questionnaires before the inspection with three having additional comments. We also spoke with three parents/carers during the inspection visit. Comments were as follows:

"My child started nursery four weeks ago and I am so grateful for all the help we received as my child found it really hard to leave me without crying."

"Nursery staff worked one to one with me and my child for the first few weeks. They were so positive and patient with my child. They used different techniques each morning and very good distraction methods."

"My child is now very confident about nursery and loves attending. She has a great bond with the staff and is happy each day. I feel they really went the extra mile to make her feel comfortable."

"My child has additional needs and the staff at Paradykes Nursery are brilliant."

"We are kept up to date with meetings and our child is well respected."

"My child loves the staff and the nursery. I think they do the very best for all the children."

"The staff are very approachable and I get lots of information about my child."

"I am very happy with the service and get regular newsletters and am able to see my child's learning journey."

We spent time in the nursery playrooms and outdoor area and observed children who were happy, settled and enjoying a variety of play experiences. The interactions between staff and children were friendly and nurturing which created a positive and stimulating learning environment.

We spoke with ten children and all of them told us that they enjoyed coming to the service. We observed that all children were very settled within the nursery environment. Some comments were as follows:

"I've had a hair cut."

"My hair is growing back quickly."

"What's going on?"

"I like snack here."

"What do you want to buy at the shop."

Self assessment

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

The service identified what they thought they did well, areas for development and any changes they had planned.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

We looked at the care and support theme using GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child) and SHANARRI and focused on child protection and how children's health and wellbeing needs were supported in order to help them reach positive outcomes.

We looked at the service's child protection policy and procedures and evidenced that staff received annual child protection training. They were also knowledgeable about the procedures to be followed and were confident in their written recordings of concerns when required. They spoke confidently about their roles and responsibilities in relation to keeping children safe from harm. There was one live child protection case at the time of the inspection and we were able to view chronology paperwork including agency contact list and referral forms.

We evidenced that the children received very good support for their health and wellbeing needs from management and staff. Children were observed to be happy and confident in their environment. Resources were easily accessible and labelled to encourage children to be independent when choosing what they wanted to do. We observed staff consulting with children and taking their views and ideas into consideration when planning and adapting their learning environment. All the parents/carers who returned care standards questionnaires told us that staff asked for their child's views about activities and outings and used them in future planning.

The two large playrooms had well defined areas of the Curriculum for Excellence and we evidenced that children were able to choose from a variety of learning experiences through play. We observed how the children enjoyed playing in the shop taking turns to be the seller and the buyer.

Staff demonstrated that they knew the needs of individual children very well and responded in a caring and professional manner when meeting their personal care and support needs. Strong relationships with parents, children and other agencies had helped staff to develop strategies to support children's early learning, additional support needs and care routines within the nursery and at home. We evidenced that staff were very calm in how they dealt with a child who was upset to leave mum on entry to the service.

The nursery worked closely with other agencies including speech and language therapist, educational psychologist, social work services and the oral health co-ordinator. We found that staff appropriately took forward additional support plans for individual children when required.

Staff kept tracking information for each child in their key group and we were able to see the progression of children in numeracy, literacy and health/wellbeing. Targets of achievement were discussed with parents and children on a regular basis and individual learning goals identified. These included helping to increase concentration and develop simple numeracy.

We observed the free flow snack procedure and found that children were given fresh fruit, crackers and cheese which contributed to a healthy diet. They had been making pancakes to celebrate Pancake Tuesday. Water and milk were provided and children had access to drinks throughout the session. Independence skills were promoted and we observed the children clearing away their dishes and cutlery when finished. They were also involved in writing shopping lists for snack and preparing the food. The children told us that they had planted seeds and potatoes in the garden and had harvested apples and pears from the fruit trees.

The service was a health promoting nursery and the children also had opportunities to learn about healthy living, diet, environmental issues, personal hygiene and tooth brushing. Hand washing procedures were promoted by the staff.

We looked at the environment theme using GIRFEC and SHANARRI and focused on outdoor learning.

We observed that the standard of resources and equipment was of a high quality and that all necessary safety features were in place. The staff were continuing to develop the outdoor area which provided children with free choice taking into account their interests and preferences and encouraged the extension of their learning through play. We observed that there was free flow between one of the playrooms and outdoor area throughout the morning session and some children chose to spend a lot of time outside. The outdoor learning environment

encouraged an active and healthy lifestyle. Parents/carers told us how well used the outdoor area was in all weathers and how much their children enjoyed spending time outside.

We discussed the recently published early years good practice document 'My World Outdoors' which could be an aid in the on going development of the outdoor area. This guidance highlighted examples of effective practice around the SHANARRI health and wellbeing indicators and provided a good model for assessing and reporting the service's impact on children's outcomes. A wide range of outdoor equipment and resources were available to the children including wheeled toys, hay bales with bulbs planted in earth, sand pit, wooden Wendy house, planting areas where sunflowers had been grown as well as flowers and herbs. The service also had use of the school's gym hall which provided additional physical play opportunities and the school's outdoor area which had a picnic table, climbing ropes, basket ball net and balancing equipment.

Children had opportunities to participate in local outings to the library as well as events such as a Christmas Fair, teddy bears' picnic, ugly bug ball and Loanhead gala fancy dress parade.

What the service could do better

The service should continue the development of the outdoor area in order to enhance children's learning which reflected the indoor activities and themes.

The service should continue the ongoing use of GIRFEC SHANARRI health and wellbeing indicators in all children's recorded information and in appropriate wall displays.

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
25 Feb 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
1 Mar 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	2 - Weak
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
2 Mar 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
22 Apr 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.