

St. Brides Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Onich
Fort William
PH33 6SA

Telephone: 01855 821280

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 3 March 2017

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Care service number:
CS2007149305

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.

St.Brides Primary School Nursery is registered to:

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of 18 children aged three years and over to those not attending primary school.
2. The care service will operate Monday to Friday during the usual school term.
3. The service will comply with the following staffing: Age of children Adult:Child Ratio 1:8. Where children aged three and over attend the facilities providing day care for a session which is less than a continuous period of four hours in any day, the adult child ratio may be 1:10, providing the children do not attend more than one session per day. Two adults to be on duty at any one time (only adults in contact with the majority of the session should count towards ratios.)

The service is provided in a room annexed to the main school building that is suitable to accommodate children of different ages and abilities. Staffing levels meet recommended ratios.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure 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 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. Getting it right for every child 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 Getting it right for every child. 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.

What people told us

Parents spoke well of staff and indicated that they were approachable and children looked forward to coming to the service.

We sent ten care standards questionnaires to parents of children who attended the service. We received four completed questionnaires before the inspection took place. These contained many positive comments which told us that parents were very satisfied with the quality of care provided. We have included a comment from one of the children's parents:

"The nursery staff are absolutely brilliant... you can tell (the staff) really love the children they have in their class. I can't sing their praises high enough."

Self assessment

The provider submitted a self assessment to the Care Inspectorate and identified what they thought the service did well. The self assessment clearly identified some key areas that the provider believed could be improved and showed how the service intended to do this. The provider told us how the people who used the care service could be further involved in the self assessment process and how their feedback would be used further in the development of their plans for improving the service.

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

Children attending throughout the day at St. Brides Primary School Nursery had rights and control over the activities they chose and were fulfilled by the activities on offer. The children's physical and emotional wellbeing was promoted by a warm, caring and very enthusiastic staff team. We saw that care given was relaxed as the adult to child ratio was met and therefore staff had the time and opportunity to play with the children and spend time with individuals. Children were cared for in an unhurried relaxed way that made children feel nurtured and valued. Staff provided children with appropriate reassurance and space and time for the children to express their wishes.

Children are cared for in an environment that is comfortable and staff continually promote opportunities for outside play. We saw that a new nature trail is nearing completion and this will further add to children's experiences through being physically active in the outdoors. Children found it easy to do things for themselves as there was a range of toys and equipment which was 'to hand' in both areas. Mind maps assisted staff in supporting children in purposefully shaping their learning.

Information assisting with the care of the children is shared between parents and carers and staff.

The staff group are focussed on ensuring transition planning for the children remains a priority and embedding links with the early years primary were seen as important.

Staff work well with external agencies to ensure children with additional needs are appropriately supported and included whilst at the setting. Children have regular access to active play and staff are keen to maximise the use of the outdoor environment.

Staff were positive about the range of training opportunities available to them. We saw that this had led to the development of a confident team, aware of areas of practice and many key documents. Staff indicated that the manager is committed to reflecting on and improving the service for children and families. We noted plans were in place to access further training linked to the development of the service and improving outcomes for children using the service.

What the service could do better

We spoke with staff about the best practice document 'Building the Ambition' and 'My World Outdoors'. Staff agreed that these documents should continue to be reviewed and the practice further embedded within the service. We believe the new nature trail and the addition of more loose parts from which the children can select will further enhance children's learning opportunities which are deemed to be very good at this time.

Staff had recently undertaken training on risk assessment. We noted that they had identified areas of improvement linked to the safe storage of resources and we would agree that this area required to be reviewed to ensure staff were not placed at unnecessary risk when retrieving items from height.

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 Mar 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
22 Sep 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
19 Nov 2009	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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