

# Lincluden Nursery Day Care of Children

Lincluden Primary School  
Lincluden  
Dumfries  
DG2 0PU

Telephone: 01387 273010

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 4 December 2017

**Service provided by:**  
Dumfries & Galloway Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003003501

**Care service number:**  
CS2003015495

## About the service

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure 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 in 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 to work with all children and young people. The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people – and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it right for every child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

In Scotland, the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) approach puts wellbeing at the very 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'.

Lincluden Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 50 children aged from 2 years to not yet attending primary school at any one time of whom no more than 10 children are aged under 3 years.

Children are being cared for in a secure nursery suite, which is a part of Lincluden Primary School. They have the use of their own rooms and also timetabled use of spaces in the main school, where they have opportunities to be part of the whole school community as well as for active and energetic play indoors. The nursery has its own outdoor area and also uses parts of the school playground so that children have opportunities to learn about the natural world. They regularly go for walks around the local community and have opportunities to learn about their wider world.

## What people told us

We are carrying out a pilot using the Short Observational Framework for Inspection (SOFI 2) tool. The tool supports inspectors to carry out focussed observations of children's experiences while at nursery. We carried out a SOFI 2 observation as part of this inspection which has informed our findings. The findings are threaded throughout the report.

Staff interacted well with children. They supported them to settle into nursery routines and to learn to play with others. Children were forming friendships. They told us "I like nursery", "grown ups are my friends" and "I'm going to make a necklace".

Parents were very happy with the service provided by the nursery. They told us:

"All staff are very friendly and helpful".

"Staff are amazing with the children, always cheery and welcoming to both children and parents".

"Very approachable and always give feedback on the days activities and how my child has been".

"Best nursery my child has been to. Staff are the best and they use a wide variety of activities to enhance my child's learning".

## Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at the service's own improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. We have made some comments about these in this report.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

## What the service does well

Children were being cared for in a safe, warm environment by a well-motivated and caring staff team. There was a strong focus on developing high quality experiences for the benefit of children and their families. Staff valued and respected the parents and carers of the children attending their service and were committed to working in partnership with them. This included making better use of Stay & Play sessions as a means of offering parents opportunities to develop their skills and interests, for example a recent pizza making session.

We found that staff were building on these good relationships so that they could work with parents effectively and so provide learning opportunities for the children. Staff knew the children in their care well and were able to tell us about their needs and how they used their knowledge to support their development. All children attending the nursery had a personal plan and a personal learning folder, which told the story of their time at nursery. Children showed us their folders and told us about what they had been doing at nursery.

We saw that staff interacted with children very well. They talked to them gently and responded to them with affection. Staff praised children and encouraged them to learn to share and to be safe. Children were making friends and to be aware of the needs of others. We heard them singing and laughing. Children were encouraged to be curious and to ask questions.

Children were learning about healthy lifestyles. They were taking part in the Childsmile toothbrushing programme and were learning about healthy food choices. They had some opportunities to take part in active and energetic games both indoors and outdoors. Staff encouraged children to become resilient, to think out solutions for themselves and to persevere when tasks were challenging. Children liked to be helpful and take responsibility for tasks, like telling their friends that snack was ready.

Staff felt well supported by the nursery management. Staff had regular opportunities to meet and to discuss both the needs of the children and improvements in the nursery. Staff had opportunities to develop their own practice and learning so that they could care for children and meet their needs effectively. Staff were familiar with self-evaluation and the relevant good practice indicators and used them regularly to reflect on how well they were doing. We found that they were open to suggestions and new ideas and were actively looking for opportunities to learn from others.

## What the service could do better

Whilst all children had personal plans in place and staff were able to tell us about them, we found that they were not recording the information consistently for all children. Staff needed to ensure that all records were dated accurately as this helps to track when reviews are needed. We made some suggestions to help staff with their personal planning procedures, including reviewing the format of the personal plans and folders and introducing a rolling calendar for reviews so that they are spread across the year.

Although children had daily opportunities to play energetically, we observed that access to the outdoors was decided by adults. We have asked that staff review this to ensure that children have free flow access to all areas in the nursery, and particularly the outdoor area, during their session, as this is recognised as best practice for young children.

We observed the youngest children at snack and observed that whilst staff were sitting with the children, they were using this time to complete diaries for parents. We discussed this with staff and made some suggestions about different ways of sharing this information. We also suggested that staff could include children more in preparing snack, for example by helping to set the table and also pouring their own drinks.

## 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](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
8 Jan 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
22 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
14 Dec 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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