

# St. Charles's Primary School Nursery Class

## Day Care of Children

St.Charles Primary School  
Rowan Street  
Paisley  
PA2 6RU

Telephone: 0141 884 4660

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 29 January 2018

**Service provided by:**  
Renfrewshire Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003003388

**Care service number:**  
CS2003014765

## About the service

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

St. Charles's Primary School Nursery Class was provided by Renfrewshire Council to provide early learning and childcare to a maximum of 50 children aged three to not yet attending primary school and 10 children aged two years. The service operates Monday to Friday during term time.

The service had sole use of a wing of the school with three main playrooms, with direct access to enclosed gardens where children could choose to play outside during the session. They also made use of the wider playground and areas within the local community to allow children to explore the natural environment.

The service aims and objectives included:

'To ensure that the curriculum provided meets the expectations and aspirations of all'.

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

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.

## What people told us

We sent out 20 care standards questionnaires before the inspection and 10 were returned before the inspection. We also spoke with parents at the end of the session. Comments included:

'Staff are excellent, they make the children feel relaxed and safe, they are also very calm'

'My child is always happy on collection and telling me about his day'

'Receiving a home visit from my daughter's keyworker and the nursery principal was an excellent idea. They came out a couple of months before my daughter started nursery which meant she recognised a couple of faces when she began'

'I find staff very approachable and they seem very interested in all the children, which is lovely to see'

'The staff are amazing and always look so happy to see the children each day'

'Everyone is so genuine, nice, friendly and caring. Nothing is an inconvenience too, always available for a chat and so enthusiastic with the children'

'St. Charles is welcoming, friendly and inclusive not to mention organised, safe and educational'.

We observed and spoke with groups of children, children were highly engaged in the learning environment both indoors and outdoors. They shared their experiences with us. Comments included:

"I have been drawing and I enjoy it"

"I am dressed up as a princess"

"Guess which superhero I am"

"This is where we have a story"

"I like playing in the garden, I get my wellies on"

"We went for a walk".

## Self assessment

All services, with the exception of childminders, have not been asked to provide a self assessment for the year 2017-18. We have referred to the most recent self assessment provided by the service and reviewed the service improvement plan. We found that they had a clear vision for how they would continue to support and care for the children and families using the centre.

## 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

St. Charles's Primary School Nursery Class provided children and families with a welcoming and inclusive environment where children were supported to reach their full potential by a dedicated and skilled staff team. There were clear procedures in place to ensure children were protected. There was very good support in place to ensure children were settled and secure within the early learning and childcare setting. Staff had developed very good home links and parents commented on the positive impact to have the opportunity for a home visit before their child started nursery, it also helped to foster good communication links between families and staff. This contributed to children being safe and nurtured.

Staff were skilled in their interactions with children and encouraged them to choose freely and be independent in their play.

Staff worked with children to encourage language and communication and gave lots of opportunities for conversation and discussions, the 'big talk' had been developed by staff to stimulate children's interests to extend children's language. Staff celebrated children's achievements on the 'wow wall' and staff shared information on children's strengths and achievements. Staff had a very good knowledge on the individual needs of children. Where children needed additional support staff were skilled in their support and had developed good links with visiting professionals and offered very good support for families tailored to children's needs. This was in keeping with the principles of 'Getting it right for every child' (GIRFEC).

It was evident from children's personal plans that staff were responsive to the individual needs of children, and activities and experiences were planned based on the children's interests and stages of development. Floors books illustrated the learning and development the children were participating in and influencing. Children enjoyed high quality play experiences across the service including outdoor play experiences in the nursery garden and local forest, where they participated in challenging risk based activities that encouraged children to work together, problem solve and manage risk. Staff extended children's learning and they were effectively using a range of best practice guidance to offer exciting and challenging activities to children. This included 'My world outdoors', 'Loose parts', 'Learning to talk' and 'Building the ambition'.

As part of their journey for improvement they had assessed and developed the environment. Changes to the play environment were impacting positively on outcomes for children.

Children were playing and exploring in a calm relaxed environment where they could freely access the outdoor space. Areas were challenging and exciting, big books showed progress and development of children's experiences. Children were having fun in the outdoor environment and the weather had contributed to exciting play experiences for children in the winter months.

## What the service could do better

The service should continue to progress with their development plan, they were continuing to assess and improve the environment and staff were taking forward new ideas and training. Staff were motivated for the continuous journey of improvement.

Staff identified as part of their own professional development that the children would benefit from them having further opportunities for training and development on outdoor play.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

## Complaints

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

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
15 Dec 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
24 Oct 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
26 Mar 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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