

St. Peter's RC Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

37 St. Peter's Terrace
Buckie
AB56 1QN

Telephone: 01542 831339

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 14 February 2018

Service provided by:
The Moray Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001892

Care service number:
CS2003016015

About the service

The service has been operating since 2002 and registered with the Care Inspectorate since it was formed 2011.

The nursery operates from St. Peter's RC Primary school in Buckie.

The nursery aims as stated were:

"To stay safe by adults and children working together to assess risks and adults supporting children to embrace challenge.

To encourage children to have kind hands, to care for each other and their environment.

To encourage children to be good listeners, to listen to adults and to each other.

To support children to be ready to learn. Children are encouraged to listen, think, talk and ask questions."

What people told us

The number of children varied throughout the inspection. We observed them enjoying a variety of activities and play experiences available including outdoor play. We saw that children were relaxed in the care of the staff and many children were confident in their play.

We spoke with six parents during our visit. Their comments were very positive about the service and the staff. These included:

"A brilliant service. Both my children attended and love it. The staff are friendly and we have not had any problems, we can chat to them. I am very happy."

"Fine, really good. My child is happy they like everything they do here. There is plenty of variety in learning and play. I feel the teachers are approachable. We can speak to them. They keep you informed for example when my child had a head bump."

"Very good and we are very happy. The staff keep you well informed. My child enjoys the nursery."

"I really like it, there is good communication from the teachers. We are always kept aware of what happens and we receive newsletters. The staff ask parents for comments and we can attend 'tea and talk' sessions. My child really likes the nursery. They do a lot of activities, a lot of walks, a shape walk, playing outside and have a Welly Wednesday."

"It is a lovely nursery. I like the way it is structured. I like the way the staff put things down in a simple format for the children."

"I really like it. My child has settled well and they are always making crafts. The teachers are nice and friendly and my child speaks about them a lot."

Feedback in the Care Standards Questionnaires indicated that parents were very happy with the level of care their child received from caring and enthusiastic staff. Comments from parents included:

"I find St Peter's to be an excellent nursery school. All the staff are friendly caring and enthusiastic and very approachable. My children are involved in a wide range of learning activities, be it indoors or outdoors. They are able to choose from healthy snacks each day. This is truly a five-star establishment for my children's needs."

"The staff at St Peter's Nursery have supported my family through a very tough time they are amazing."

"We as parents are very happy with the service provided at St Peter's Nursery. Staff are always happy and helpful. Our child absolutely loves attending the nursery and always has fun and exciting stories to tell us."

"The staff at the nursery have been extremely helpful and professional in dealing with any concerns I have had. They have gone above and beyond to create a friendly nurturing environment for the children."

"St Peter's Nursery is a fabulous facility and we are very lucky to have it here, especially the teachers as well as the support the school provides. A very good experience with my child at St Peter's Nursery. A welcoming atmosphere for parents and children. Approachable staff and positive attitude."

"I can't speak highly of the staff at the nursery. One of my children had difficulty settling at nursery but the way they handled it and approached the situation made it so much easier for myself, husband and the child in question. The nursery teacher always asked my opinion and puts no pressure on myself or my son. I therefore put no pressure on myself or my child. I therefore think this helped him get settled and he then went on to enjoy his nursery experience."

Self assessment

The service has not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their improvement plan and quality assurance systems. These demonstrated the services key priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

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	4 - Good

What the service does well

The service provided a welcoming and nurturing environment. The staff respected children and treated them as individuals. They knew the children well and this supported them in meeting their individual needs.

Staff made very good use of SHANARRI wellbeing indicators to help children understand and think about their health and wellbeing. For example, they used 'SHANARRI friends', cardboard figures to talk with children. This included reminding them to try hard and do their best whatever they were doing, to include everyone and to take care of each other.

Children could take on responsibilities and develop their independence through daily routines. For example, they were able to sign themselves into nursery and take turns to help prepare snack. They were encouraged to dress themselves to go outdoors, clear away the toys and care for their environment through recycling. This helped children to be confident in caring for themselves and their environment.

Children were praised for their efforts throughout our visit and their achievements were recognised by 'Star of the day' and 'Wow achievements' which supported links between home and nursery. These were displayed to allow children, staff and families to celebrate and share in these successes. This helped to build children's self-esteem and confidence.

Children had regular opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise. The nursery has a 'Welly Wednesday' where they spend a significant part of the session outdoors exploring the natural environment. Children were also learning to keep themselves safe during 'road safety week'.

Detailed information was gathered and used to support staff in caring for each child. They worked closely with other professionals to support children's health and wellbeing needs. Systems were in place for keeping children safe and protected.

Staff were positive role models promoting respect and inclusion. There was good use of questioning to help children to think things through and to problem solve. Children were encouraged by staff to reflect on their learning and talk about their experiences.

Staff communicated effectively with parents. We heard many positive conversations as they shared relevant information about their child's care needs. The nursery blog, newsletters, and display boards kept parents well informed. 'Tea and Talk' sessions provided opportunities for parents to make suggestions and contribute to nursery matters.

The nursery aims had been revised by the nursery staff in 2016. They were involved in self-evaluation of the nursery through daily conversations, completing evaluations and regular planning meetings. A calendar of events was used effectively in planning the nursery year. The school improvement plan 2017-18 detailed key priority areas for development, these included:

- developing effective partnerships
- pupils' welfare and support
- reporting to parents.

What the service could do better

The 'Childsmile', Nursery and School toothbrushing programme was set up for children in the nursery. However we noted children were not provided with this opportunity during the days we visited. We discussed the importance of the programme in improving children's oral health with the nursery teacher.

Children should be provided with more opportunities to self-select and have freedom of choice. For example, in choosing resources they would like to play with in the water, sand and play dough. There should be more opportunities for children to explore 'loose parts play' to encourage their imagination and creativity both indoors and outdoors. The staff should use the good practice guidance 'My World Outdoors' and 'My Creative Journey' to support and provide these opportunities for the children.

We saw administration of medication records were not always viewed and signed by the child's parent for

example, when a child had used their inhaler in nursery. We also noted there were no systems in place to review administration of long-term medication for children. In order to effectively promote and manage children's health and wellbeing needs the nursery should review this. This will ensure medicine is still required by a child and that it is in date.

The head teacher and staff should use the 'How good is our early learning and childcare' framework to support self-evaluation in the nursery and to help identify and move forward improvements. This will help the nursery to continually enhance outcomes for children and families who use the service.

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
7 Nov 2014	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>4 - Good</div>
11 Nov 2011	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>4 - Good</div>
19 Mar 2010	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>4 - Good</div>

Date	Type	Gradings

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