

Meadowview Early Education and Childcare Centre

Day Care of Children

Braehead Primary School
Meadow Road
Dumbarton
G82 2BL

Telephone: 01389 762175

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

25 June 2018

Service provided by:

West Dunbartonshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003003383

Service no:

CS2003014738

About the service

Meadowview Early Education and Childcare Centre is based in a wing of Braehead Primary School in Dumbarton.

The service has sole use of three playrooms and three outdoor play areas. This service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 29 children:

- 9 children 6 weeks - under 2 years
- 20 children 2 years - under 4 years.

Aims of the service include providing: "a safe, secure environment for learning through play, relevant to the children in our care."

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services can be found on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

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

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

There were 26 children present at the time of inspection. We observed the children enjoying their play. We saw children in the outdoor areas have fun climbing, balancing, searching under logs for mini beasts, gathering sticks and using a wheel barrow to transport the sticks from one area to another.

In the playrooms we saw children looking at books and naming their favourite characters. Children also had fun building their creative skills using open-ended materials.

Staff treated children with respect and were kind and caring in their approach. They listened to children and comforted them when needed. Staff made sure children were supported to develop relationships. For example, we saw one child enjoy pulling a tub of construction toys, this upset a second child who was playing with them. Staff made sure both children were included and provided two plastic flexible tubs to give both children something to push and pull. The children then climbed onto the tubs and sang together.

Parents we consulted, through discussion and our questionnaires, indicated their overall satisfaction of the service provided. Parents commented on the supportive staff and management, outdoor play opportunities, transitions and links with other support agencies.

During discussion parents' comments included:

- "very happy with the service, disappointed when children have to move onto another nursery".
- "No concerns, happy to approach staff with any issues".
- "Kept up to date with what is going on and what my child is doing".

"Aware of parent and carers committee, but due to work not able to attend. Looking forward to fun day on Thursday".

In our questionnaires parents' comments included:

"I have always been delighted with the levels of care provided".

"I am confident to leave my child in their care".

"Staff are very observant about changes in my child's behaviour, keeping me informed".

"My child has grown so much in confidence and settled into a routine".

"My child loves the nursery and is happy to go".

"The staff are wonderful".

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their 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	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

Staff were aware of and sensitive to children's individual circumstances. They had a very good understanding about children's and families individual needs and concerns. Staff had developed nurturing relationships with the children and were aware of the importance of this for children's wellbeing and development. Staff continued to work sensitively with parents and other agencies when drawing up programmes of support for children, where this was needed.

Arrangements for safeguarding children were well organised. Management and staff were vigilant to the safety and welfare of the children in their care. Clear records were kept of significant events and updates, for particular children, where this was needed. This provided staff with current information for supporting children. Some staff had recently attended updated child protection training and the staff team took part in an annual update. This kept staff up to date and refreshed their understanding of protecting children.

Staff were knowledgeable about the importance of smooth transitions to children's development and wellbeing. Staff tailored transitions to meet each child's individual needs. We heard about particular successful transitions and children's improved capacity to cope with changes, as a result of these sensitive transitions.

Breakfast and lunch times were relaxed experiences. Staff respectfully helped children express their food choices verbally and through gesture. Management liaised with catering staff and improvements had been made to the consistency of food for the youngest children.

Staff felt supported by management and were encouraged to put forward ideas to make service improvements. Management and staff used the quality indicators from the national guidance document 'How good is our early learning and childcare' (HGIOELC) to evaluate the service provided.

Parents were consulted through discussions, surveys and the parents' group. Plans were in place for parents to have a key role in the development of the outdoor area.

Promoted staff carried out monitoring responsibilities and staff confirmed this was carried out in a helpful and supportive manner. Records were kept of how issues were taken forward and progress made. Staff had a role in developing the new improvement plan which identified priorities to take forward such as, outdoor learning and transitions.

What the service could do better

Our inspection highlighted the need for the continued development of the outdoor learning environment. As previously discussed this had already been identified by the service and we heard about new resources and experiences planned for the three areas. A promoted member of staff had been given responsibility for this development and enthusiastically discussed plans. Staff had access to our good practice document 'My World Outdoors' and confirmed this will be used to help guide them in the continued development of the outdoor learning environment.

We found improvements should be made to some of the children's personal plans. It is acknowledged management had already identified the need for improvements. We found more up to date observations and reviews of children's personal plans should be carried out, including reviews and updates of children's medication arrangements. This will help to make sure all parents are fully included in identifying their child's on-going needs and help them keep track of how their child is developing in the service. This will also help staff to have a clearer picture of all children's health and wellbeing needs and help improve outcomes for the children.

We asked management to reflect more on improvements made to outcomes for children in their monitoring records. This will help staff clearly see the impact of important improvements they have made on the outcomes for the children.

We discussed some issues about the environment, such as windows in the baby room that cannot be opened and door security between the primary school and the service. It is acknowledged that the manager had reported these issues and was currently seeking advice from the provider about when improvements can be made. We asked management to add these areas to the service's monitoring schedule and record any issues and progress made. Management agreed to monitor walls displays and include more children's work. We suggested management use our good practice document Our Creative Journey, in this development.

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	
8 Aug 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
1 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
25 Oct 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	Not assessed
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
17 Nov 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
31 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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