

Calderbank Primary School Nursery Class

Day Care of Children

Main Street
Calderbank
Airdrie
ML6 9SG

Telephone: 01236 632084

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

20 August 2018

Service provided by:

North Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003000237

Service no:

CS2015336180

About the service

Calderbank Primary School Nursery Class has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 2016. It is registered to provide care to a maximum of 40 children at any one time (but currently operates with 20 children), aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. The registered manager is also the registered manager for Kirk 'O' Shotts Primary School Nursery Class under a peripatetic management arrangement. The peripatetic manager must be present in each service for at least one session each week. The provider is North Lanarkshire Council.

The service is provided from an old traditional school building with large rooms, a central hall and high ceilings. It is located in a residential area of Calderbank in Airdrie, North Lanarkshire. The nursery is part of Calderbank Primary School and is located in the same building as the school. Children have access to two bright playrooms and an enclosed garden. They can also make use of the school gym hall.

The service works towards children being safe, happy and exceling. Aims of the service include, providing high quality learning and teaching, providing a nurturing environment that builds children's confidence, providing equal opportunities for all and encouraging children to be effective contributors to society.

The inspection was carried out over two days between the 17th and 19th August 2018. Two early years inspectors carried out the inspection. All areas of the nursery were in operation during our inspection. We found that nine children were using the service on the first day we inspected, and sixteen children on the second day.

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. GIRFEC 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 GIRFEC. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included. They are often referred to as the wellbeing indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

What people told us

We sent questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents and carers before the inspection. Four of these were returned to us.

During the inspection we also spoke with four parents and carers who gave us their views on the service.

All respondents indicated that they were overall, happy with the quality of care that their children were receiving at the service. People spoke highly of the caring staff and small family environment.

We observed children at play and found they were happy and settled within the nursery environment. Children were confident and gave us a tour of their playrooms, pointing out items of interest. They talked positively about their experiences at nursery.

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	4 - Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children were happy, busy and having fun during play. Their skills in understanding, thinking, investigation and problem solving were developing through a good balance of organised and freely chosen play experiences. Children were particularly creative when they played with the basket of shells, wooden rings, logs and pebbles.

Story telling was a central focus of the nursery session. A cosy and well resourced reading area was popular with children, and provided good opportunities to extend their literacy skills. Staff led animated story sessions and children had opportunities to reinforce their learning by accessing books and puppets independently.

Children were supported to develop their wellbeing through very effective use of the learning resource 'The Sid and Shanarri Toolkit'. This is an interactive story based toolkit to develop children's understanding of how to promote their wellbeing. The children we talked to were recording their progress on a 'wellbeing web' displayed in the playroom. One child told us "Sid teaches us good things like being safe. There's my photo there because I know how to be safe". Children were developing their ability to be safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, respected, responsible and included as a result of this.

Personal plans were in place for every child. They demonstrated clearly how children's needs would be met and recorded their progress. Children's plans were reviewed with parents and children were keen to show us photographs which highlighted their achievements.

Children were developing a positive attitude to healthy eating at snack time. A child was nominated each day to be the 'snack helper', and as such were fully involved in snack preparation. During snack time children self selected from healthy options including fruit and wholemeal toast, and often went for second servings. Staff sensitively supported snack time, offering assistance if required. It was a sociable and relaxed experience for children. We discussed with the service how children could have better access to drinking water outwith snack time to ensure they are kept well hydrated.

The service identified that they were keen to improve the transition from home to nursery. We observed new children settling and found that most were happy and well supported.

We did however, agree with the service that settling information received from parents (both written and verbal) could be improved to better support children's needs.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The atmosphere in the nursery was relaxed, welcoming and peaceful. Children were greeted warmly by staff, making them feel valued and included.

The nursery was well looked after, clean and tidy. Children could freely access a very good range of toys and equipment that supported learning across the curriculum. Care was provided from two large playrooms separated by a corridor. Children safely moved between the rooms, making choices about where they wanted to play. As a result, children were motivated to play and learn.

Staff carefully checked the playrooms for any hazards before each session. This ensured that children were kept safe. Risk assessments had been adapted to ensure staff' understanding of what potential hazards would look like.

Inside there was space for children to relax and play alone, if they felt they needed to. Staff had considered the lay out of the rooms, maximising the space and creating interesting learning stations for children.

Children accessed outdoors every day. The garden provided very good opportunities for children to develop creativity and physical skills. We observed children busy at play in the mud kitchen, on bikes and exploring with water and in sand. The outdoor environment was exciting and children told us they liked being outdoors. The service were keen to develop the garden further and planned to visit other services for inspiration.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Staff were kind, caring and responsive to the needs of children. They listened to children and were tuned in to their needs. We saw children receive cuddles and high fives, contributing to them feeling loved and valued.

Staff had a clear understanding of how to protect children from harm. They were alert and responsive to any signs of deterioration in children's wellbeing and worked closely to help keep children safe.

Children were cared for by the right number of staff. The adult to child ratio was high, ensuring that children's needs were able to be easily met.

Children were cared for by staff who were well-trained and skilled. Staff talked passionately about the opportunities they had been given, to develop their skills. We found that the training had impacted positively on children's wellbeing and emerging literacy.

The team were keen to further develop their skills. They had identified the need to visit other services in order to benchmark practice and gain new learning. We also discussed with the service the value of making use of some good practice documents, to support development. For example, Our Creative Journey, Building the Ambition and the Whole School Nurture Approach.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

Children's care and support was provided in a planned and safe way. The head teacher was responsible for two primary schools under a peripatetic management arrangement, and as such, worked closely with the principal teacher to lead the nursery. We found that the teams were well co-ordinated to ensure consistency for the children.

Monitoring processes had contributed to continuous improvement. Staff had been introduced to some key documents, such as the Health and Social Care Standards and Building the Ambition and were supported, to use these to reflect on practice. Areas for improvement were identified as part of this process and were developed, to provide improved experiences for children. We advised the service to incorporate the monitoring of accidents, incidents and medication to maintain good practice.

The principal teacher had closely monitored how staff were meeting children's needs. Detailed auditing of children's personal plans provided staff with constructive feedback, on how they could enhance approaches to planning for children. This improved outcomes for children using the service.

Staff were invited to attend weekly meetings to discuss the running of the nursery. They told us that the meetings provided them with good opportunities, to evaluate provision and plan how best to meet children's needs.

The management team were in the process of organising opportunities for staff to attend training. We discussed with the manager how targeted training would support the individual development needs of staff, as identified within their performance reviews and monitoring. Targeted training would up-skill staff in the areas they needed, resulting in enhanced experiences for children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

Work should continue on the development of personal plans, tracking, and evaluation. These documents should link and it should be clear that children and their parents had been consulted throughout. National Care Standards, standard 3: Care and support.

This recommendation was made on 2 October 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

We found that personal plans had been developed. They showed clearly how children's needs were planned for and met. Parents and children had been involved in the development of these.

Therefore this recommendation is met.

Recommendation 2

North Lanarkshire Council should review the arrangements in place to ensure that there was time for staff to meet, for the quality of written work to be assessed, for effective supervision and support for staff, and for staff to attend training. Management should develop a monitoring system that reviewed where the service was, where they want to be, and how they will achieve that. Nursery staff should be involved in that process. Audits should be part of the monitoring process and include information recorded about children, medication records, newsletters, and repairs needed.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16, standard 14: Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 2 October 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

We found that staff were meeting regularly to discuss the needs of children. Effective monitoring processes were in place and identified strengths and areas for improvement.

Therefore this recommendation is met.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
27 Jun 2017	Unannounced	Care and support
		Environment
		4 - Good
		4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.