

King's Oak Nursery Class

Day Care of Children

King's Oak Primary School
35 East Crawford Street
Greenock
PA15 2DX

Telephone: 01475 714680

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

4 October 2018

Service provided by:

Inverclyde Council

Service provider number:

SP2003000212

Service no:

CS2003016351

About the service

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

The service operates from Kings Oak Primary School. At the time of the inspection the service was registered for 20 children aged between 3 years to those not yet attending primary school.

The nursery operates from a playroom within the school building and has a fully enclosed outdoor play area. Children have access to the out door play-area every day. At the time of inspection thirty two children were registered to attend the service.

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

Children joined in play and group activities as they explored the environment. Some children had formed friendships and were keen to share their play activities with us. Lots of fun was had outdoors as children explored their mud kitchen. Children told us they enjoyed coming to their nursery as they had friends and could play. We spoke to seven parents and received two completed care standard questionnaires from parents. All indicated they were overall happy with the service. Comments included:

"They do all right here, I'm happy that X is happy."

"Welcoming, friendly staff."

"Staff doing a great job, friendly and supportive."

"I feel they are so friendly and on the same level as us, its respectful."

"Absolutely great nursery, X is making good progress since coming here."

"I'm happy with everything here and would recommend to other families."

Self assessment

We did not ask the service to complete a self assessment. We viewed the service improvement plan, standards and quality report and saw evidence of self evaluation for improvement.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support

4 - Good

Quality of environment

not assessed

Quality of staffing

4 - Good

Quality of management and leadership

not assessed

What the service does well

We observed children that were happy and relaxed in the early years class. Children presented as settled confident in the nursery routines. Clear boundaries were in place to support positive behaviour with staff using questions to support children in reflecting on their actions, guiding them to make the right choices. Positive behaviour was promoted through the building of relationships. Staff took time to explain to children what was happening and why. They used calm voices, consistent in their approaches. This supported children's transitions during the session. Children were offered meaningful encouragement and praise that helped to develop their self esteem. Staff knew children as individuals. This approach helped to create a nurturing environment to support children's feelings of security and well being. As a result, children had formed positive relationships with staff, confident their needs would be met. Children benefitted from accessing outdoor play directly from the playroom during their session. We saw how they explored and investigated the outdoor environment with confidence. Access to a separate area called ' the mud kitchen' provided children with the opportunity to explore using a range of open ended resources. Most children confidently planned their own play from the activities and resources available. They had the opportunity to play on their own, with friends or alongside staff who helped to extend their understanding. Fruit was offered for snack prepared by staff. Children could independently select their milk cartons from the fridge.

A range of information had been gathered on each child to form a personal plan. Staff used this information to plan children's learning and care. Management advised this was a new format recently in place and was being shared with parents. Staff had attended external and in house training. We asked staff how this had impacted on their practice. They told us Bookbug training had provided a range of ways to support children's interest in books and stories in a fun way. Literacy training had given them ideas to improve the experiences offered to the children. Discussions with staff demonstrated a positive attitude to continuing to develop their skills to improve outcomes for the children in their care. During the inspection we observed staff working well together clear in their roles and responsibilities. Staff presented as motivated, keen to ensure they are providing good quality care where the needs of the children were at the centre of their work. Fortnightly meetings that took place were used to reflect and evaluate. As part of reviewing the whole school vision values and aims staff had reflected on their practice with individual action for improvement identified.

What the service could do better

Administration and storage of children's medication procedures should be updated referring to best practice guidance available on Care Inspectorate HUB. See recommendation 1

Children's snack experiences could be improved offering a more nurturing experience. Staff should consider positive aspects of children's lunch experiences that can be transferred to daily snack routines. Children could be involved in the preparation supported by staff. Water should be made available for children at all times. Staff told us they do not have snack menus. Consideration should be given to menu planning for snack including opportunity for children to be involved making choices and learn about healthy eating. See recommendation 2

During the inspection professional conversations we had with staff highlighted some concerns. Discussions with both management and staff demonstrated a commitment to resolving this with processes already in place with a plan to further develop formal monitoring. Management should provide further opportunities for all staff to develop leadership skills in their practice to support improvement developing relationships. Use of resources

within Step into Leadership available on Scottish Social Services Council website could be used. Revisiting codes of practice as whole staff team will offer opportunity for professional dialogue with staff continuing to be supported by management as needed. Staff should continue to develop their use of self-evaluation working collaboratively as a team to ensure a more robust and rigorous approach in identifying what is working well and what needs to improve. See recommendation 3

Staff should review the environment considering where children can be offered a safe space that is cosy and inviting for children who may need time to relax when attending full day sessions.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 3

1. Procedures relating to administration of medication should be updated referring to current guidance. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that as a child, 'Any treatment or intervention that I experience is safe and effective'. (HSCS 1.24)

2. Snack routines should be reviewed to ensure children have choice, can develop independence in helping to prepare snack and are involved in menu planning. Fresh water should be available at all times. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that as a child, 'I can choose suitably presented and healthy meals and snacks, including fresh fruit and vegetable and participate on menu planning'. (HSCS 1.33) I can drink fresh water at all times. (HSCS1.39)

3. Staff leadership skills should be further developed alongside opportunity for the whole staff team to revisit and professionally discuss their codes of practice. Self evaluation should be further developed by all staff. This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that as a child, 'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes'. (HSCS 3.14)

Complaints

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

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
27 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
27 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
13 Jan 2010	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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