

Strathburn School Nursery Class

Day Care of Children

Strathburn Primary School Nursery
Strathburn Primary School
Strathburn Gardens
Inverurie
AB51 4RY

Telephone: 01467 621143

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

1 November 2018

Service provided by:

Aberdeenshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003000029

Service no:

CS2003015711

About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

The service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Strathburn School Nursery Class is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 30 children at any one time aged between 3 years and those not yet attending primary school. The nursery is within Strathburn Primary School, which is located in the Inverurie area of Aberdeenshire. There is a large playroom and an outdoor play area which can be accessed directly from the playroom. The nursery also has programmed use of the gym hall.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (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 services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included, also known as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

At this inspection we spoke with six children and five members of staff. We observed practice and checked documentation relevant to the inspection.

We carried out an unannounced inspection of this service on 31 October and 1 November 2018 and gave feedback to the head teacher, depute head, lead practitioner and the rest of the staff team at the end of the inspection.

What people told us

Children were settled and happy in nursery. They were engaged in play and explored the resources and space with confidence. They were supported by staff who knew them well and accessed all areas independently.

We had 14 care standards questionnaires completed and returned to us during our inspection. Overall all parents indicated they were happy with the quality of care their child received. Some additional comments from parents included:

- The staff are wonderful and hardworking and they are very good at nurturing and developing the children's academic and social skills. They provide a rich and stimulating learning environment for the children.
- The staff at my son's nursery have gone over and above to take care of my son. It's difficult to find staff that actually like their job and really care.
- Staff worked very hard to settle our son into nursery. Great communication and support.

Other parents told us of the individualised support they received from the staff and how helpful it had been for their child.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own monitoring 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	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Confident children were nurtured by staff who supported them to make choices and form positive relationships with their peers. Staff promoted self awareness and responsibility for children and this had resulted in a caring and inclusive space for children where they could safely express themselves. They also embraced having visitors in nursery and enjoyed including us to play and have fun with them.

Personal plans were in place for children and the information gathered had helped staff to plan for children's support needs. These were well linked to planning for learning and development with strong parental input. Children's voices were valued and respected by staff, for example children were consulted on their personal plans and what they would like to achieve at nursery. This helped children to identify and express their preferences to adults who would listen and support them. Children were supported to take personal responsibility, for example they took part in risk assessing the areas within nursery to make sure they were safe for use.

The outdoor play area and resources had been refurbished by the service. They were aware of the best practice documents such as My World Outdoors and Loose Parts Play and were using these to plan and evaluate the space. Loose parts play was evident throughout the environment which provided opportunities for children to use their imagination and creativity. Staff told us of the plans for the development of more outdoor space for children to access. They were keen to provide a variety of challenging and explorative learning experiences.

There had been some changes to the staff team since the last inspection. The new team worked well together and demonstrated a positive and inclusive approach. Staff engaged in professional dialogue and were able to advise us of how children had been supported and their role in making sure children had positive outcomes. They were keen to provide a good service for children and their families. We observed staff supporting children to problem solve and resolve disagreements with their peers in a kind and caring manner. They had lots of fun with children and the positive, loving relationships were clear to see. Children's achievements were celebrated by staff. This helped to promote positive self-esteem and confidence.

They recognised that they were on a learning journey and were fully committed to promoting positive outcomes for children. Training opportunities were linked to the needs of children as well as the needs of the overall service. Staff were aware of their responsibilities of keeping children safe and were registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

What the service could do better

We discussed reviewing the paperwork relating to personal plans so that the information is clear and easy to track. Before we had finished the inspection the lead practitioner had already reviewed the paperwork and advised that she would assess and adapt it to suit the changing needs of the service. Staff had made progress in enhancing the variety and quantity of resources both indoors and outdoors. They should continue with their plans to provide more opportunities for risky, explorative and S.T.E.M experiences. The provider should continue to provide leadership opportunities for staff to enhance and develop their knowledge and skills.

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
24 Nov 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
15 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
15 Jun 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
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