

Bridge of Earn Nursery Day Care of Children

The Institute
Station Road
Bridge of Earn
Perth
PH2 9EA

Telephone: 07759 786218

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

22 November 2018

Service provided by:

Bridge of Earn Playgroup and Preschool

Service provider number:

SP2003002148

Service no:

CS2003010092

About the service

The service registered in 2002 and operates from a community hall within the village of Bridge of Earn. The nursery has use of a playroom which is shared with other community groups at different times of the day. They also make use of a large hall within the building and have access to a large, well equipped garden.

The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 24 children at any one time. The age range of the children will be from two and a half years to those not yet attending primary school. For the children aged two and a half years to three years the adult:child ratio will be 1:5 and for children aged three years and over the adult:child ratio will be 1:8.

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection, carried out by two inspectors, which took place on 22 November 2018. We gave feedback to the manager and a practitioner at the end of our inspection.

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. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

The aim of the nursery is to provide children with a range of stimulating play activities. Through these activities the children learn about themselves and the world around them. The setting also provides children with the opportunity to play with and alongside other children.

What people told us

We provided the service with ten Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) for parents of children using the service. Eight completed questionnaires were returned to us before the inspection. All of those who completed our questionnaires strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care and support their child received while in the service.

Parent's comments from the questionnaires included:

'My daughter recently joined the setting. I cannot praise the staff enough for how welcoming they have been. I've felt very well informed about what is going on and how my daughter is doing. I always feel like they have time for each family which is appreciated. My daughter is loving all the experiences she is having.'

'I am very happy with the nursery, they provide amazing learning experiences for my daughter. I know my daughter is well looked after and happy whilst she is there. My daughter has grown from a very quiet and shy little girl when she first started nursery into a happy, confident and outgoing girl and I credit most of this transformation to nursery. They have provided her with a secure and happy learning environment where she has been able to grow in confidence.'

'Excellent calibre of staff who in our opinion go above and beyond, always the extra mile. Our daughter has blossomed with this nursery and we are so very grateful to them for their care and attention to detail.'

'My child has settled into nursery life two years running with ease. He has loved being a buddy and helping younger ones settle. The experiences he has are excellent. The staff are fabulous and work closely with me as a parent.'

'My child's confidence and social interaction developed very quickly at Bridge of Earn Nursery.'

We had the opportunity to speak with parents during our inspection. They confirmed that they were very happy with the service provided.

During the inspection we observed the children at play and found them to be happy, confident and enjoying their activities. The children were happy to tell us about the nursery and the things they enjoyed doing there. They told us:

'That table is for painting. I make sparkly things for my mummy.'

'Do you want to come in here? This is the tent.'

'This is my learning journal. Do you want to look at it?'

'What's your order? Here's your lunch. Would you like some juice? I've only got apple juice.'

'This is XXXX. She is my best friend.'

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	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

During the inspection we considered the quality of care and support, from the evidence gathered during our inspection we evaluated this theme as excellent. We also looked at the quality of environment which we evaluated as very good.

The children were happy and confident individuals who were very engaged in their play throughout the nursery session. We saw warm, nurturing and kind interactions between staff and children which supported them in their play and learning. Staff clearly knew the children very well and spent time with each child engaging in quality interactions which developed strong relationships between the children and staff and provided excellent opportunities to extend children's learning.

Children were very familiar with the daily nursery routines including preparing for snack and hand washing. We observed snack to be a very sociable experience where children were encouraged to be independent and have opportunities to be responsible.

Staff had developed a very responsive approach to planning and consulted regularly with children. Consultation with children was a key strength of the service and it was evident that children were fully involved on a daily basis. Children were encouraged to lead their own learning and we saw that children's experiences were planned following their interests and ideas. We could see clear evidence of the children's voice throughout. There were lots of opportunities for children to engage in imaginative and creative play and we liked how staff asked children each day about what resources they wanted to play with. This gave the children a sense of responsibility and ownership of their play and learning experiences.

Staff clearly identified and tracked children's learning. Children, parents and staff were all involved in identifying children's next steps in learning and children were confident to share their learning with us. Children's next steps were revisited on a regular basis. Staff were mindful to track children's progress against best practice documents such as Building the Ambition, Pre-birth to Three and Curriculum for Excellence with clear links to the principles of curriculum design. Staff had an excellent understanding of each child's learning and development. This was very well recorded and shared with parents.

The service had excellent engagement with families offering them opportunities to share their children's learning and be involved in a range of well thought out groups and activities with a particular focus on keeping healthy and active. Families were also encouraged to share their skills and expertise with the nursery. This approach enabled families to be fully involved in the life of the nursery.

Staff were very aware of the limitations of the physical environment of the nursery. They were highly reflective practitioners who continued to evaluate and make changes to the environment according to the children's needs and interests. The environment was well thought out to meet a variety of skills relating to children's developmental milestones. During the inspection, we could see that there was a focus on developing children's pincer grip and fine motor skills throughout.

Staff made very good use of the local and wider community following children's interests furthering their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. For example, the children visited a local supermarket and changed their home corner into a supermarket following on from children's ideas. Children also participated in 'Bridge of Earn Rocks' and enjoyed a visit from a pony and sheep who visited the nursery. Children were confident to discuss and recall these learning activities.

We spoke with staff about the service's child protection policy. We were satisfied that they had working knowledge of their responsibilities and the procedures to ensure that service users were protected from harm.

What the service could do better

The service should continue to maintain the excellent quality of care and support provided by continuing to reflect on their practice.

We suggested that staff should continue to provide opportunities for the children to contribute further to the learning books, for example by encouraging emergent writing and mark making. This would create further opportunities for children to have a sense of ownership of their learning.

Staff should consider building on opportunities for large loose parts play outdoors and continue to add to their range of natural and heuristic resources within the nursery. This will support children's problem solving, creativity and collaborative play.

The staff should be mindful of the risk of spreading infection whilst children self-serve during snack. We suggested that they should introduce tongs or spoons for children to use when self-serving to minimise the spread of infection and provide additional opportunities for independence and development of fine motor skills.

Accidents and incidents were recorded and shared with parents. We would ask the service to ensure that a regular audit of accidents and incidents is carried out to identify common features and how the service intends to minimise any identified risks to children.

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	
4 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent
15 Sep 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
23 Oct 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
22 Nov 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
9 Feb 2010		Care and support	Not assessed
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
30 May 2008	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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