

Sacred Heart Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Crockett Gardens
Penicuik
EH26 9BB

Telephone: 0131 2714665

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

2 November 2018

Service provided by:

Midlothian Council

Service provider number:

SP2003002602

Service no:

CS2003016407

About the service

Sacred Heart Primary School Nursery is part of Midlothian Council's early years provision. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children between the age of three years and entry into primary school.

The nursery is part of Sacred Heart Primary School. Accommodation consists of a playroom with direct access to the outdoor play area. Toilets and a small kitchen area are included within the nursery. Children also have access to the school sports hall and to the wider school grounds.

The aims and objectives of the nursery have been shared with families using the service and include the following;

"To ensure that children's needs and safety are paramount in the nursery.
To take account of children's needs and create an appropriate environment to meet these needs. To work in partnership with parents/carers in an open and honest way."

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 GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

Children were focused and busy in their play relating positively to staff, occasionally looking to them for support and guidance. Many of the children were happy to chat to us telling us what they enjoyed about their nursery. They were particularly enthusiastic about their visits to the forest. Comments included:

"I can jump and climb trees, you'll see me when you get there."

"We understand about nature and we say hello to Archie because he's our favourite tree."

"When you hear the whistle stop what your doing and go straight back to Archie."

Before the inspection took place we issued eight Care Standards questionnaires to families using the service. Four of these were returned to us before the inspection took place. Three of the respondents strongly agreed and one agreed with the statement "Overall I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service." We spoke with four parents/carers during the inspection. Representative comments included the following:

"I have only positive things to say about my child's nursery experience. No complaints at all. Wonderful staff, environment and initiatives."

"A warm welcoming place with a wealth of leaning experiences. The staff are kind, caring, attentive and passionate about proving a holistic learning environment."

"A lovely clean, safe and stimulating environment. Friendly professional staff. My child can't wait to go to nursery each day. I'm very happy with their progress and love to see them go into nursery with a smile on their face. I am kept up to date with my child's progress and with what's going on in the nursery. There is a wide variety of toys and resources for my child and a lovely outdoor area which my child really enjoys."

"I love the new see saw system (online journals). It means I can read about what's happening to my child and see photographs at any time."

"I visited another service but decided on Sacred Heart nursery because of the lovely atmosphere and the great staff team."

"As a family we love Sacred Heart. The staff really are great. They are so helpful and friendly and always willing to go the extra mile for us."

"My child loves nursery, especially the forest Thursday. I can say a huge difference in their confidence and in their ability to think sensibly about risk. Staff are so kind and friendly."

"We have nothing but good things to say about this nursery. I'm delighted with the care and support my child receives."

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

What the service does well

Children were welcomed into the nursery by professional staff who knew them well and had created a fun and nurturing environment to support their learning. Children were eager to come into the nursery greeting friends and staff enthusiastically and settling quickly to their chosen activities.

The experienced and motivated team were confident in describing children's individual needs and interests. They were committed to ensuring that these interests led their planning. Staff's focus on supporting positive outcomes and promoting individual choice was apparent in the activities available and in the way children took ownership of the playroom and the outdoor play area.

Staff's respect for children was evident in the considered way they interacted with children in order to support their play and build confidence. They gently and appropriately intervened if children needed help with negotiating social rules including sharing, turn taking and being respectful of one another's feelings. Their high quality interactions supported the development of life skills.

The well equipped indoor and outdoor environments provided rich learning environment for children. Imaginative use of resources including loose parts had created opportunities for children to explore, play,

rest and take risks. Staff's understanding of the benefits of risky play and their respect for children was apparent in the way they allowed them to decide on the level of risk they wanted to take in their play.

Children were enthusiastic about their weekly visits to a nearby area of woodland. As these visits took place throughout the year children were able to experience the changing seasons and develop their understanding of the natural world. The woodland environment allowed children to experience freedom and challenge in their play which helped develop resilience and problem solving skills. Children worked individually and in small groups using natural materials to enhance their play. We saw children create and negotiate obstacles while others made paint from mud and a café from pebbles twigs and leaves. These opportunities supported their creativity and communication skills.

The staff team were committed to involving families in the life of the nursery. Well established initiatives including stay and play, volunteering, sharing skills and the monthly social café where parents were invited to have lunch with their children helped build a sense of belonging to the nursery family.

Wellbeing forms were reviewed regularly. This helped ensure that any changes in circumstances requiring support and intervention were identified quickly allowing any intervention to be put in place.

It was apparent that staff were skilled and confident in their ability to identify children who had additional needs. Timeous referrals to the appropriate professionals helped ensure children got the support they needed to achieve their potential.

What the service could do better

Children enjoyed a weekly visit to a nearby woodland. We talked about some of the ways that the experience could be extended. The manager accepted our findings and shared their own ideas for on going development of the experience.

Although medication forms had been amended to include parents confirmation that they had given their child the first dose of any medication these forms were not always being used in the nursery. The manager agreed to ensure that new forms were used consistently.

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	
26 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
8 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
17 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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 ਵਿਚ 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.