

Gergask Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Gergask Primary School
Laggan
Newtonmore
PH20 1AH

Telephone: 01528 544272

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

28 January 2019

Service provided by:

Highland Council

Service provider number:

SP2003001693

Service no:

CS2003017210

About the service

This service has been registered since 2002.

Gergask Primary School Nursery conditions of registration are as follows:

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of seven children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school.

The service is provided within the primary school located in a rural setting. Children had access to a dedicated outdoor area adjacent to the main entrance where energetic activities could take place. 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.

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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. Getting it right for every child 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 Getting it right for every child. They are: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

What people told us

We sent care standards questionnaires to parents/carers of children who attended the service. We received a completed questionnaire before the inspection took place. This indicated that the parents/carers were satisfied with the quality of care provided. Comments shared with the inspector at pick up time added to this understanding and we the carer indicated that the nursery provides a great place to learn and play.

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 of 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	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

We noted that there had been a reduction in the number of children attending the service the last inspection. Staff had worked to provide opportunities to use the support available through training and interaction with peers to identify improvements and work with the child and parents/carers to further develop the breadth of experiences available for those attending. The service continued to promote its participation policy they had in place which set out how staff valued the views of children and parents/carers in shaping the service provided.

Mind Maps were evident and highlighted a level of children's involvement in planning activities and learning. We noted that the early years practitioner and manager are aware how these could be further developed to underline specific children's involvement and to support reflective observations. The staff team recognised that this was an area of ongoing development and they planned to continue to review how the children's care and learning was supported within the service and at linked visits to a larger local authority nursery.

Throughout the inspection visit we were aware of the relaxed, nurturing environment. The children present received positive interaction from the staff member who was seen to be working at the child's level. The child was given lots of praise and positive re-enforcement linked to having done well. We observed children engaged in activities with the early level class such as singing action songs which helped develop language, social and motor development, while good quality resources helped promote learning and development. The children were supported by the staff who listened to what they said, discussed ideas and provided appropriate resources to extend their learning and development. School pupils have access to local croft land where they can grow vegetables and explore the natural world. Active, outdoor opportunities helped the children to learn about their bodies and develop their physical skills such as throwing, climbing and balancing.

Snack time was a particularly important part of the day and staff were aware of the importance of this social and educational activity.

What the service could do better

The layout and decoration of the nursery could be reviewed to ensure a range of resources is accessible and supports child led investigation. The colour scheme of the room is not in line with up to date research and could be changed to support a calmer responsive learning environment. We would encourage the service to make decorative changes as funds become available.

We noted resources in the playground could be further developed to promote loose parts and support imaginative creative activities.

We discussed possibilities to further promote support numeracy and literacy in the playground and croft land and staff agreed that there was room to develop this area of learning in these areas.

We discussed the management of risk in the playground and were satisfied that the electrical air condition systems currently accessible to children would be subject of review and remedial steps taken if required to ensure children do not have access to this area.

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.

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

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
3 Mar 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
29 Oct 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
2 Dec 2011	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	3 - Adequate Not assessed 3 - Adequate Not assessed
13 Nov 2009	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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