

Fauldhouse Nursery Class Day Care of Children

St. John the Baptist Primary School
Lanrigg Avenue
Fauldhouse
Bathgate
EH47 9JR

Telephone: 01501 770782

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

3 April 2019

Service provided by:

West Lothian Council

Service provider number:

SP2003002601

Service no:

CS2003017493

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

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

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.

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 often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators (see above). We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

Information on SHANARRI can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright>

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children aged three years to primary school entry.

The service is operated from premises within St John the Baptist Primary School in the village of Fauldhouse, West Lothian. Fauldhouse Nursery Class is managed by the head teacher of the primary school.

Children were cared for in three large open plan playrooms. They had direct access to an enclosed outdoor area where they could participate in physical play.

The nursery's vision was to welcome everyone into our happy, nurturing and friendly community. Their values included:

- A nurturing approach
- Effective teamwork
- Collaboration and
- Partnership with parents.

What people told us

We spoke with ten children at the inspection and six parents/carers. We also received seven completed parents questionnaire before the inspection.

Children were very well settled and happy in the care of staff. They confidently accessed the activities in the nursery they wanted to use. We saw that children had developed friendships and played well together.

Through their play they told us;

'Are you sick. You better come in the ambulance'.

'We're going to the cornfield'.

'We're going to America'.

'I need to write you a ticket'.

During the inspection we saw that parents/carers had very good relationships with staff. They spent time chatting and sharing information with them at drop off and pick up times. Overall parents and carers were happy with the service provided. They told us that staff had the skills and experience to support their children's learning and development. One parent felt, at times, there was not enough staff in the service.

While most parents found they got enough information through talking with staff and the e-journals, one parent did feel they would like more information about their child's progress.

Parents were happy with the range of activities available for children. They were satisfied that children regularly get outdoors for energetic play and there was good use made of community resources. Comments included;

'I find the nursery a positive and happy environment. Staff are always upbeat and welcoming'.

'Good nursery. Lovely staff'.

'My son absolutely love this nursery. It is absolutely set up to cater for his independence across each play area. He loves the staff, facilities and freedom he gets there'.

'All staff work hard to create a friendly and welcoming environment for children and parents'.

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

What the service does well

A continued strength of the service was the kind and caring ethos that had been created by the staff team. Families experienced a welcoming, nurturing and respectful environment where they had developed very good relationships with staff. This meant that children settled quickly on arrival at nursery and parents were confident about the care their children received. We saw that the stay and play sessions were well attended, with parents/carers joining in children's activities.

Children's health and wellbeing was supported as they had daily access to outdoors for fresh air and opportunities for physical exercise. Children confidently displayed their physical skills as they climbed, jumped from heights and completed forward rolls with ease.

The service provided a range of snacks for children. We saw that children had healthy appetites and enjoyed the food that was prepared, often coming back for more.

Appropriate information was gathered before children started nursery. Care plans were developed if they had additional health or medical needs. Following discussion with staff, we saw where children had been supported to achieve positive outcomes. One example was supporting a child's language development. On-line journals were used to record observations about children's progress and identified 'next steps' to support their continued development.

There had been changes to the management and staff team since the last inspection. This had led to the responsibilities for the early years officer being changed. Through discussion we found that staff were progressing in their role and developing leadership skills. They were starting to identify areas that could be better and for example had introduced a new planning format for staff to use.

Staff had used, training, best practice guidance and quality indicators to evaluate the service and compile an improvement plan. This had resulted in staff implementing initiatives to improve experiences for children. We were shown how the in and outdoor environments had been improved. The changed layout of the rooms had resulted in better use of the space available, while new resources further enhanced opportunities for children's learning and development.

The service worked in partnership with others to share experiences and develop their own practice. This included developing the use of loose parts and using the fire pit. They also benefited from attending cluster group meetings within the authority.

What the service could do better

In line with the national expansion for early years, the service was currently piloting extended hours for a group of children. This had meant staff had limited time to meet together to discuss the work of the service. In addition to this recent staffing issues had also impacted on the delivery of the service. This will hopefully improve as the new model in West Lothian will mean staff have time to meet on a Friday. We asked the staff to note this in any evaluation they conducted so it can be addressed as they move forward.

Some of the record keeping could be further developed so it is clearer about the systems in place to support children. Staff acknowledged this was an area they could improve on by including techniques they used to support children. We shared ideas about how personal plans could be further developed and gave some examples that they may find useful. Although they had parents evenings to discuss children's progress, we asked staff to record this to demonstrate that children's plans had been reviewed.

Staff could further develop the information recorded when they need to give children medication. They should ensure signs and symptoms of any condition is recorded as well as any triggers. When 'as when needed' medication is administered the reason why it is given should be recorded.

Staff had started to take on leadership roles and acknowledged they could be further developed to increase staff responsibility for particular areas. We also talked about further developing the initiatives that had been introduced. For example, positive risk taking in play had been talked about with children. We suggested using pictures to support children's understanding of this and a tool staff can use to remind children of rules agreed to support safe play.

Within their improvement plan, the service had identified what it did well and areas for continued development. We suggested that instead of 'all staff' being against areas, it might be helpful if a named person was identified for particular tasks to be taken forward which would help develop leadership roles. To ensure the aims of the improvement plan were met, we asked that the impact and outcomes were recorded.

We asked the service to review the purpose of group time for children. For example, we observed that children were welcomed into nursery and quickly settled to activities. Their play was then interrupted to have group time which consisted on welcoming everyone to the nursery. There was also the potential for full time children to be in four group times per day. Staff should consider the format of group time and what the benefits are for children.

The Health and Social Care standards hadn't fully been introduced within the service. They should consider these when developing the nursery and ensure the impact and outcome of any changes for children are noted.

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
13 Apr 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
24 Jan 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
25 Nov 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Not assessed Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed

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