

Danderhall Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

59 Edmonstone Road
Danderhall
Dalkeith
EH22 1QL

Telephone: 0131 271 4585

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

29 March 2019

Service provided by:

Midlothian Council

Service provider number:

SP2003002602

Service no:

CS2003016396

About the service

Danderhall primary school nursery is registered to provide a day care to a maximum of 80 children aged from 3 years to not yet of an age to attend primary school at any one time.

The aims of service included:

- To offer a stimulating and varied curriculum with breadth and balance, providing inclusive learning for all.
- To encourage each individual to realise their full potential through the promotion and recognition of achievement.
- To promote the development of learning and teaching to ensure a quality curriculum which motivates children to become responsible learners.
- To foster positive relationships between school, home and community by providing a welcoming environment and promoting an ethos of achievement and high expectations.
- To provide effective support which enables all young people to achieve their full potential.

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. 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.

What people told us

We sent 20 Care Standard Questionnaires to the service for parents and carers to complete. Five completed questionnaires were returned to us.

Parents who returned the Care Standard Questionnaires wrote:

- "My child joined the nursery in January and has settled perfectly. Staff have been fantastic in making her feel safe and welcome, while encouraging her to make friends. My child has so much fun and enjoys a wide range of activities. I feel the staff are preparing her for school in the best way possible."
- "This is an excellent nursery - the staff are amazing - nurturing, patient, kind and full of fun. You are always met with a smile and have the opportunity to speak to staff on a daily basis. My children have had an incredible start to their education and I can't praise this nursery enough. The children have a wonderful time with lots of varied activities and lots of time in the garden too. Nothing is ever too much trouble and the children are so well cared for."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their Standard Quality and Improvement Plan. These demonstrated their priorities for development.

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

The staff worked hard to create an inclusive, nurturing, safe and caring environment where children and their families felt welcomed, valued and respected. There was a strong ethos of working with parents and other professionals, when needed. This ensured that children had opportunities to maximise their potential within the nursery, home and wider community.

Staff knew children very well and were nurturing, responsive and respectful to their individual needs and interests. With knowledge and enthusiasm staff told us about the training they had attended to ensure that all children's needs were met.

All children had personal plans which were updated regularly using the SHANNARI indicators, information from home was included so that staff had the appropriate information to meet the needs of the child.

Through responsive planning children's ideas and suggestions were responded to daily, showing respect for their views and interests, this was demonstrated through the use of floorbooks. We observed staff responding to children's requests so that they could take forward their idea of making an airport and how they sensitively allowed a big brother to take care of their younger sister who had bumped her lip. This demonstrated the respect staff had for children and how they nurtured their ideas, creativity and caring personalities.

Since the last inspection the nursery was in a new purpose-built building. There were two large playrooms, each with its own kitchen area and toilets. The large open plan rooms were spacious, airy and full of natural light. Both rooms had direct access to the outdoors, which was accessible throughout the day for the children which contributed to children being active and healthy.

There were a variety of high quality resources and equipment which provided children with opportunities to create, explore, imagine and which stimulated curiosity and encouraged problem solving. Children were supported by staff to develop skills in understanding, thinking, investigation and problem solving through play.

In the outdoor area, a variety of loose parts allowed children to create their own structures and the opportunity to make decisions about their own safety. The children were trusted and supported in this process which increased confidence.

Both indoors and outdoor resources were used effectively and managed in a sustainable way that offered children choice and promoted independent learning.

The nursery team were involved in constant self-evaluation of the service. This resulted in improvements to the service and the outcomes for children and their families.

What the service could do better

We discussed that the creative art areas provided could be improved upon, staff had also identified this and were working towards improving it.

The service should continue to monitor and maintain the very high standards of quality. They should ensure that they continue to be rigorous in identifying any areas for improvement and implementing action plans to address these.

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

Recommendation 1

To ensure that all children have access to a range of activities throughout the day which promotes curiosity, inquiry and creativity staff should ensure that quality core resources are available throughout the day. This should include taking account of guidance offered in Building the Ambition - National Practice Guidance on Early Learning and Childcare Children and Young People(Scotland) Act 2014. National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16-

Standard 5: Quality of experience
Standard 11: Access to resources.

This recommendation was made on 28 January 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

We saw that there was a wide range of activities available to children in addition to the core resources available.

Recommendation 2

To evaluate the effectiveness of the service delivery, we recommend that the management team ensure audit/monitoring systems are further developed.

National Care Standards in Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 -

Standard 5: Quality of experience.

Standard 11: Improving the Service.

This recommendation was made on 28 January 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Self evaluation was on going. All staff were involved in the self evaluation and we saw the progress that had been made as a result.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
24 Nov 2015	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>
23 Jan 2013	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>
21 Feb 2012	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>4 - Good</div>

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