Wester Overton Primary School Nursery Class
Day Care of Children

Ashkirk Road
Strathaven
ML10 6JT

Telephone: 01357 521870

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 30 August 2016

Service provided by:
South Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003481

Care service number:
CS2003015378
About the service

This service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since April 2011.

Wester Overton Nursery Class is provided South Lanarkshire Council to provide early learning and childcare. It operates from with Wester Overton Primary School in Strathaven. The nursery is registered to accommodate a maximum of 30 children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. Children attend either a morning or afternoon session during term-time only. There are currently 34 children attending the nursery.

The nursery has its own entrance with children accessing a playroom, toilets, cloakroom and enclosed outdoor area.

Through viewing the aims and objectives of the service it was noted that the nursery aimed to provide a “happy, safe and stimulating environment in which each child is given the opportunity to fully develop their emotional, spiritual, intellectual and social potential.”

What people told us

On the day of the inspection visit there were 22 children present at the morning session and nine children at the afternoon session. We spent time in the nursery playroom and observed children who were happy, settled and well cared for. The interactions between staff and children was friendly and nurturing which helped create a positive learning environment for the children. We talked with many children who told us how much they enjoyed coming to nursery and what they had learned. One child told us “I know all my numbers” with another one telling us “I can do my letters.”

We issued 20 care standard questionnaires to be given to parents and carers. Fifteen were returned before the inspection and we had the opportunity to speak individually with a further nine parents and carers during the visit. Both written and verbal feedback was of a positive nature although one parent felt the children would benefit from more trips outside the nursery and that the outdoor play area was very limited. All parents told us they were very happy with the quality of care their child received. Comments relating to this included:

“I am more than happy with the service my daughter receives at nursery.”
“The staff at nursery have made my child’s time here an extremely enjoyable experience.”
“My child loves nursery and has come out of her shell and is a confident happy girl encouraged by staff at all times.”
“Both my children have attended this nursery and enjoyed their experience and formed good relationships with pupils and staff.”
“I always trust the staff in caring for my child.”
Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment from the service.

The service identified what it thought they did well and gave examples of improvements in parental involvement. The self-assessment clearly identified some areas that the service believed can be improved and demonstrated how they intended to do this. The service told us how people who used the service had taken part in the self-assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of their plans for improving the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

- Quality of care and support: 5 - Very Good
- Quality of environment: not assessed
- Quality of staffing: not assessed
- Quality of management and leadership: 5 - Very Good

What the service does well

The service provided a caring, supportive and nurturing environment for the children. They used a wide range of documentation to provide them with information about the children starting at their service. This paperwork was completed in partnership with parents and used by staff to develop a personal plan for every child. The well-being indicators from Getting it Right for Every Child (safe, healthy, active, nurture, achieve, responsible, respected and included) were used as a guide to measure that the children’s health and wellbeing needs were being addressed. Staff provided support to children with additional support needs and worked in conjunction with other agencies to ensure that children could achieve their full potential. Where children had a medical condition the staff had attended training and had very clear guidance to assist them to administer medication safely. One parent told us “staff have been a great support for me and my child.” The effectiveness of this process ensured that children’s individual needs were monitored.

To further involve parents in their child’s learning the nursery offered play and stay sessions. This initiative allowed parents to take part in activities with staff and children. The service had received very positive feedback regarding these sessions and as such hoped to increase their frequency.

The service made good use of the outdoor space and during the inspection the children were observed having great fun playing in the mud kitchen, making cakes and dinner for the staff and each other. Children had the opportunity to be active by using wheeled toys, balls, hoops and climbing frame.

The service had an improvement plan which identified and prioritised areas that they wanted to develop and improve. One such area was the planning which had been reviewed and updated to allow staff to be more responsive and flexible. Another area focused on interaction between staff and children to ensure play and learning was child led. The impact of these changes was noted during the inspection with staff skilled in when to step in and when to stand back and allow the children to direct their own play. Staff and parents were involved in developing and reviewing the improvement plan which ensured that everyone felt included, valued and responsible for developing the nursery.
What the service could do better

Although the service had medication records in place it did not state that parents must administer the first dosage of any new medication as detailed in the best practice guidance. The benefits to this were discussed with service. (See recommendation 1)

To further extend the learning opportunities outdoors for children the Inspector signposted the service to the Care Inspectorate’s best practice document “My World Outdoors.” (See recommendation 2)

The service should ensure that personal plans are updated every six months in line with legislation.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. The service should update their medication records in line with best practice.

   National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to age 16. Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing

2. The service should access a copy of “My World Outdoors” to further develop the children’s learning.

   National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to age 16. Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing

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

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