Maxwellton Primary School Nursery Class
Day Care of Children

Calderwood Road
East Kilbride
Glasgow
G74 3DP

Telephone: 01355 222521

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 9 December 2016

Service provided by:
South Lanarkshire Council

Care service number:
CS2003015311
About the service

Maxwellton Primary School Nursery provides day care to 40 children aged from 3 to those not yet attending primary school. The service is open 5 days a week during term time. The provider is South Lanarkshire Council.

The service is located in East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire. It is close to shops, local amenities, and bus routes.

The nursery aims to ensure all learners’ progress and achievement both in nursery and at home will be observed, recorded and tracked through floor book planning, target setting and evidence in their learning journals.

What people told us

Over the two days of our inspection, approximately forty-one children used the service. We observed children enjoying their play. They enjoyed being there. Friendships had been formed and the children were considerate of each other. The children were confident and took part in familiar routines. Most happily talked to us and allowed us to take part in their play and learning. They explained what they had been doing.

Carers include parents, guardians and relatives. They do not include care staff.
We spoke with six parents during the inspection. They told us they were happy with the service. We sent out twenty care standard questionnaires for distribution to people who use the service and nine were returned to us before the inspection. These gave carers the opportunity to comment on how the service performed.
Parental comments included:
“ The nursery environment is lovely and well laid out; the outside space is also lovely”.
“ I have only positive things to say about the nursery, it’s a great, safe, learning environment and my child absolutely loves going”.
“ I am very happy with my child’s progress since starting the nursery”.
“ The staff are helpful and friendly”.
“ Feel very confident my child is well looked after each day”.
“ Overall I am happy with the nursery, even though there have been some staff changes my child is still happy and settled”.

Views demonstrated that parents were happy or very happy with the quality of care their child received.

One parent said they would have preferred paper copies of newsletters instead of electronic mail. Another parent said they would like to know when there was a new student in the service. We discussed these points with the management team and changes had already been implemented prior to the inspection.
Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment.

We used information in the self-assessment to inform the inspection.

The management team gave some examples of how feedback from people using the service had influenced their plans for to improve.

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

Particular strengths were outdoor play and the way the service was managed and led.

We saw independent, confident children involved in a range of child led play activities. The children determined what happened and experiences were responsive and based around their interests. Staff listened to what children had to say and respected and acted on their views. Children were capable and their success was recognised and celebrated. The plans and floor books in use showed what children were learning about, identified targets and linked to health, wellbeing and safety and other curricular areas.

We saw staff applying the wellbeing indicators of (SHANARRI) from the national framework ‘getting it right for every child’. This meant that everyone worked together. Outcomes for children remained positive because there were opportunities to discuss children, their needs and how they could be supported to continue to achieve. Assessments were carried out by the Team Leader and involved parents and carers. These were used to identify any support that children required. Children had an awareness and understanding of the wellbeing indicators and their rights. Shanarri bags were in use as part of the home learning initiative.

Health and wellbeing was given significant importance. Staff encouraged and supported children to be healthy. Children had easy, direct access to outdoor play. The environment provided children with a range of interesting areas to freely explore. Children knew how to keep themselves safe as they carried out risk assessments. They could play outdoors immediately on arrival and staff were stationed here as part of the routine. The programme has been amended to support staff and children responsiveness in all-weather outdoor play. These opportunities helped to ensure children were active and engaged.

Healthy eating was reinforced and snacks always included fresh fruit with milk or water. Children were nurtured and included, ensuring snack times were a pleasant experience. They particularly liked the range of snack offered as they chose the snack menu. These experiences were unrushed. Children set up and prepared snack, served themselves and tidied away.

The staff and management team worked together. They had a clear vision and this is shared with families who use the service. Staff induction, reviews and appraisals were targeted to support staff. Staff told us how training
had kept their knowledge and skills up to date and had impacted on children’s experiences. Staff felt supported in their continual professional development.

Self-evaluation was systematic, scheduled and continuous. The staff and management team used a variety of self-evaluation methods and guidance to ensure quality of the overall service. Systems are implemented and provided opportunity for staff to enhance and progress the service. Action plans are in place as well as proposals for improvement.

The service was well-managed and led. The management team were approachable and supportive of the staff. There was a strong sense of team work. The staff team were open to initiatives and best practice. They behaved in a professional manner towards children and families, taking responsibility for their actions, valuing teamwork and supporting and mentoring each other.

The management monitored the delivery of the service and met with the staff team and other professional’s to discuss the children and any support that staff and families might need. Staff motivation and professional approaches were encouraged to ensure staff understood the aims of the service and implemented service policies and procedures appropriately.

Since the last inspection there have been changes to the management team as well extended hours of care now being offered. They management and staff team were reflective, aware of strengths and where to make improvements. They understood the aims of the service and were confident in carrying out their role. They had identified areas of improvement such as self-evaluation and peer assessment and are currently working towards these.

The staff and management were active in their work and provided a high quality care service.

**What the service could do better**

The staff team should continue to provide a service responsive to children and their families'.

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Gradings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Dec 2013</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: 4 - Good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment: 5 - Very good</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing: 5 - Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership: 5 - Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Jan 2011</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: Not assessed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment: 4 - Good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing: Not assessed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership: 5 - Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Dec 2009</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: 4 - Good</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment: 3 - Adequate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing: 4 - Good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Management and leadership: 3 - Adequate</td>
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