

Muir of Ord Pre-School Centre Day Care of Children

Muir of Ord Pavilion
Muir of Ord
IV6 7SX

Telephone: 07925 974146

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 9 February 2017

Service provided by:
CALA Direct Management Services

Service provider number:
SP2010011106

Care service number:
CS2010278780

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.

Muir of Ord Pre-School Centre conditions of registration are as follows:

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school.
2. The service will comply with the following minimum staffing ratios: Age of Children Ratio - adults to children three and over 1 : 8. Where children aged three and over attend facilities providing day care for a session which is less than a continuous period of four hours in any day, the adult : child ratio may be 1 : 10 providing individual children do not attend more than one session per day. A minimum of two adults to be on duty at any one time. (Only adults in contact with children for the majority of the session should count towards the ratios).

The service is provided within a dedicated hall in the local village community resource. Children had access to a dedicated outdoor area through open doors leading from the service where energetic activities could take place. All areas provided are suitable to accommodate children of different ages. Staffing levels meet recommended ratios.

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: 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 10 care standards questionnaires to parents/carers of children who attended the service. We received nine completed questionnaires before the inspection took place. These indicated that parents/carers were very satisfied with the quality of care provided. Comments shared through the returned questionnaires and through speaking to the inspector during the inspection process included some of the following:

"(Staff) are very engaging and approachable, very flexible about giving feedback and involving us in the care of our son who has developed brilliantly since going to pre-school."

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a completed self assessment from the provider. The provider identified what it thought the service did well and gave examples of improvements. The self assessment identified some areas that the provider believed could be improved and showed how the service intended to do this. We believe that the staff group continue to seek to use this format to assist with ongoing evaluation and actions linked to identified areas for development.

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

Children attending throughout the day at Muir of Ord Pre-School Centre were supported to access resources of their choosing and were fulfilled by the activities on offer. The children's physical and emotional wellbeing was promoted by a warm, caring and very enthusiastic team of staff. We saw that care given was relaxed as the adult to child ratio was met and therefore staff had the time and opportunity to play with the children and spend time with individuals. Children were cared for in an unhurried relaxed way that made children feel nurtured and valued. We noted that staff created opportunities for parents/carers to spend time with their children to help them settle when they first attended the service. Staff provided children with appropriate reassurance and space and time for the children to express their wishes.

Children are cared for in an environment that is comfortable and staff are aware of the importance of seeking to update opportunities for outside play. Children found it easy to do things for themselves as there was a range of toys and equipment.

Mind maps were used and assisted staff in supporting children in purposefully shaping their learning. Information assisting with the care of the children is shared between parents and carers and staff. The staff group are focussed on ensuring transition planning for the children remains a priority and embedding links with the local primary were seen as important. Staff work well with external agencies to ensure children with identified additional needs are appropriately supported. Children have regular access to active play and staff are keen to maximise the use of the outdoor environment. The service is an eco group and recycling and care of the environment is a focus for staff and children.

What the service could do better

We discussed the benefits of having 'champions' to promote specific areas linked to best practice documents or areas linked to innovative training attended by staff. The manager agreed to review this area to support staff keen to accept delegated responsibility for researching and sharing specific topics linked to the care and support of children attending the service.

We spoke to staff about the best practice document 'Building the Ambition' and 'My World Outdoors'. Staff

agreed that these documents should continue to be reviewed and the practice further embedded within the service.

We noted that the staff were keen with the support of parents/carers to further develop the children's outdoor experiences whilst using the service garden. Plans are to be instigated to develop this area to promote sensory play and support the children's imaginary play through ready availability of 'construction' resources.

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

Date	Type	Gradings	
14 Feb 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
8 Jun 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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