Machanhill Primary School Nursery Class
Day Care of Children

c/o Machanhill Primary School
Machanhill
Larkhall
ML9 2HG

Telephone: 01698 882101

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 21 November 2017

Service provided by: South Lanarkshire Council
Service provider number: SP2003003481

Care service number: CS2003046526
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

The service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred registration to the Care Inspectorate in 2011.

Machanhill Primary School Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 50 children at any one time aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school.

The service is provided from a new build primary school and nursery building in the Machanhill area of Larkhall. An enclosed outdoor play area is accessible from the nursery playroom. Children also have access to outdoor areas within the school grounds.

The service aims include:
'to provide a stimulating curriculum to meet the needs of pupils between the ages of 3-5 years, promoting wider partnership with pupils, parents, staff and the wider community.'

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure that 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 (GIRFEC), Scotland’s national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parents to work with services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

There were 30 children present on the day of the inspection. We observed the children as they participated in a variety of active play experiences, both indoors and outdoors. We saw that the children were settled and happy in the nursery environment and in the care of the staff. The children told us of their favourite activities which included taking part in an obstacle race in the hall, playing outside and arts and crafts activities.

Sixteen care standards questionnaires were sent to the manager to distribute to parents/carers. Eight were returned before the inspection. We also spoke to six parents/carers as they arrived at nursery with their children. All parents were very happy with the quality of care and support their child received at the service. They all commented positively on the full day provision which was now available in the service, with attendance patterns flexible to individual children and families’ needs.
Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed their own improvement plans and quality assurance procedures to determine their priorities for development and discussed how they were monitoring the quality of provision within the service.

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

Staff were knowledgeable about the service’s child protection policy and the procedures to follow should any concerns arise regarding the wellbeing of children. All staff received annual training relevant to their role and responsibilities in the service, with systems in place to ensure students and temporary staff were also informed throughout the year. Information was shared and displayed for parents to highlight the important role all adults had in safeguarding children. This contributed to the health and safety of all children.

Personal plans were in place for each child. This included written records and online learning journals which recorded all required information, tracked children’s progress, highlighted achievements and respected and included parents’ views and suggestions for their child’s next steps in learning. Additional support was sought from external agencies where required to meet children’s individual needs.

There was a welcoming, nurturing ethos within the nursery. It was clear that management and nursery staff knew children’s needs, interests and personalities very well and the keyworker system had assisted in establishing close working relationships with families. Taking account of good practice guidance, the format of the day had been reviewed. This offered children more opportunities to make choices and participate in both free play and planned experiences in response to their interests, needs and stages of development. A quiet area had also been devised to enable children to rest, if required, now that full day sessions were in place. Over the course of the day children were offered a variety of healthy snacks, drinks and lunch. Staff encouraged children’s independence in setting the table, serving themselves and monitored their intake to ensure they had enough to eat and drink over the day. Some parents told us that this routine at nursery had assisted in improving their child’s appetite and making healthier choices at home.

The nursery provided a safe and secure environment, with staff deployed at the nursery entrance to monitor the children and their families arriving and leaving the service. Active, outdoor learning was part of the improvement focus for the nursery. Using photographs, parents and children were keen to tell us about how they had taken part in a successful block of visits to a woodland park where active, outdoor learning had been promoted. The benefits of outdoor play had been significant for some children. Plans were now in place to extend outdoor learning opportunities within the nursery and school grounds by developing a mud kitchen and sheltered area.
What the service could do better

The service highlighted safety issues with the outdoor playground surface, as part of the soft play surface became a hazard when wet. Management had raised this issue with South Lanarkshire Council, the provider of the service, and it was agreed this would be repaired. Once rectified, this would allow children to access the outdoor area in all weathers and enable daily opportunities for free-flow play between the indoor and outdoor areas.

The main doors to the children’s toilets were open throughout the session. This had the potential to spread infection. The manager should take advice from the local Environmental Health Department with regards to infection prevention and control and risk assess the suitability of the door to enable children to open and close the door safely.

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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Jan 2015</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: 5 - Very 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>31 Jan 2012</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: 5 - Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment: 5 - Very 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: Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Aug 2010</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support: 5 - Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment: 2 - Weak</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing: Not assessed</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Management and leadership: Not assessed</td>
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<td>20 Jan 2009</td>
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<td>Environment: 4 - Good</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Staffing: 5 - Very good</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Management and leadership: 5 - Very good</td>
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