Nursery Times At The Park
Day Care of Children

West Stand
New Douglas Park
Cadzow Avenue
Hamilton
ML3 0FT

Telephone: 01698 200888

Type of inspection: Unannounced

Completed on: 12 July 2018

Service provided by: Nursery Times At The Park Limited
Service provider number: SP2006008494

Service no: CS2006131637
About the service

Nursery Times at the Park has been operating since 2006 and registered with the Care Inspectorate when it was formed in 2011. It is registered to provide care to a maximum of 89 children. The age range of the children whom care will be provided for is, 24 children from 0-2 years and 65 children from 2 years to those not yet attending primary school. The nursery is privately owned but are in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council. The service forms a small chain with their sister nursery ‘Nursery Times at the River’ in Clydebank.

The service is located within Douglas Park Stadium in Hamilton. Transport links are easily accessible nearby. Inside the children are cared for within four separate bright playrooms. Two large garden spaces are also accessed by the children each day. The service also benefits from accessing other areas within the stadium, including a sandy man-made beach, sensory room, large imaginative castle and football pitches.

The service aims to provide the very best care and education for children through nurture, care, teamwork, achievement, respect, inclusion, play and learning. Child friendly values are also in place and include objectives that include; being kind, working as a team, letting others join in and playing every day.

All areas of the nursery were in operation during our inspection. We found that 58 children were using the service on the day we inspected.

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. GIRFEC 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 GIRFEC. 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

For this inspection we received written views from eighteen parents and carers who used the service. We also spoke with four parents and grandparents during the inspection.

All parents and carers agreed or strongly agreed that they were happy with the care that their child received at the service. People spoke highly of the quality of staffing and valued the way that their views were regularly sought and acted upon. Parents also commented positively on the outdoor learning ethos within the service. Two parents requested that they had increased opportunities to visit their child’s new room, as part of a transition programme. We addressed this as part of the inspection.

Some parents comments are detailed below;

“This nursery is excellent and I will always recommend it to others”.
“I have no doubt my child has lots of happy times at nursery”.
“I couldn’t be happier with the care my child receives”.
“Made strong connections with staff and they care for our kids individual needs”.
“Staff go over and beyond their duty of care to support me”.  
“I find the staff enthusiastic and approachable”.

We observed children at play and they were happy, settled, and busy within the nursery environment. Children were particularly motivated to play and learn in the nursery garden and at the beach area. The children gave us their verbal views on the service. They talked positively about their experiences at nursery. Some of their comments are noted below:

“I like coming outside the best”.  
“I love (staff member) the best, they make me laugh so much with funny things”.  
“I like it here and I really like the story area”.  
“We have learned to do lots of things here”.  
“T’m just so busy here all of the time”.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of care and support</td>
<td>6 - Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of environment</td>
<td>not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of staffing</td>
<td>6 - Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of management and leadership</td>
<td>not assessed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What the service does well

Children were busy, happy and settled. They directed play in the way that they chose and accessed a wide range of experiences, which stimulated their natural curiosity. Children were excited about experiences on offer to them and were supported to be creative in their play. For example, children enjoyed mark making on cardboard boxes using paint. They used a variety of painting tools as well as their hands and fingers to create interesting patterns.

Children received excellent care from staff who were kind, loving and responsive to their needs. Children confidently asked for help when they needed it and staff listened to them and responded, treating them with respect. The non-verbal cues from the youngest children were picked up immediately too. Staff were tuned in to children’s needs. For example, one young child touched their head and the staff member responded by getting them their hat. Comfort and cuddles were given in abundance, helping children feel secure, settled and supported.

The outdoor space was accessed every day by the nursery children. There were lots of opportunities for children to be curious and creative as they played with mud, water, sand, guttering and wooden bricks. There were also excellent opportunities for children to engage in positive risk taking, for example, balancing on planks of wood placed between crates.
Even the youngest children showed determination and confidence as they climbed and balanced themselves. Staff had high expectations for the children to achieve. These types of experiences help children become more resilient in later life.

The service had access to additional areas within the football stadium. These included a sensory room, large beach area, football pitches and an imaginative castle. These spaces enhanced children’s quality of play and gave them the opportunity to explore on a greater scale, making each day an exciting adventure. Children told us that they loved going to the beach and that the garden was their favourite place.

Children’s experiences were enhanced and their needs well met by staff who were enthusiastic and highly trained. Monthly training meetings provided staff with focused learning which supported development of their practice. Recent learning surrounded schematic play patterns (a pattern of behaviour that children learn within). Staff had used this learning to identify schematic play patterns in some children and as a result, had put detailed plans in place to support their development. Children’s needs were better met because of this.

Children’s transitions between rooms were carefully planned to support their emotional wellbeing. Familiar staff supported children as they settled, offering continuity and good opportunities for information sharing, between staff. The service involved parents fully in room moves and provided them with a transition information booklet. The staff are working on an addition to the transition process, which will allow parents to spend more time in their child’s new room before they start. This will strengthen relationships between staff and parents and instigate more discussions that can be used to support meeting children’s needs.

Staff had a very clear understanding of how to protect children from harm. They were alert and responsive to any signs of deterioration in children’s wellbeing and worked closely to help keep them safe.

**What the service could do better**

The service should continue maintaining and building on their excellent practice so that children continue to benefit from a high quality nursery experience.

**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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Aug 2016</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support 6 - Excellent, Environment 6 - Excellent, Staffing Not assessed, Management and leadership Not assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Oct 2014</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
<td>Care and support 6 - Excellent, Environment 5 - Very good, Staffing 5 - Very good, Management and leadership 6 - Excellent</td>
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<td>8 Nov 2012</td>
<td>Unannounced</td>
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<td>Unannounced</td>
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<td>Unannounced</td>
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