

Croileagan Inbhir Pheofharain

Day Care of Children

An Taigh Gaidhlig
Old Academy Square
Tulloch Street
Dingwall
IV15 9LD

Telephone: 01349 866488

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
22 January 2019

Service provided by:
Croileagan Inbhir Pheofharain

Service provider number:
SP2003001770

Service no:
CS2003008577

About the service

Croileagan Inbhir Pheofharain is based within the town of Dingwall and provides a Gaelic speaking nursery that is available to the children of Easter Ross. The service is based within an old Victorian building that has its own entrance and outdoor play area. Accommodation is all on the ground floor.

The childcare service has been registered since 2002 and can care for up to 22 children at any one time.

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 18 and 22 January 2019. The inspection was carried out by a Care Inspectorate inspector.

The aims of the service are:

- To be proactive in making effective links with home, nursery, school, health visitor and associated health professionals.
- Offer parent/carers the opportunity to become involved in the life of Croileagan and in the children's learning.
- We will arrange appropriate professional development training for all staff in line with the SSSC registration requirements.
- We aim to maximise learning outdoors and within the local community.
- We will develop the children's Gaelic language by providing a challenging stimulating learning environment which encourages every child to assess their own risk and become aware of the benefits of risk and to be; safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and involved.
- To provide a quality service underpinned by; How good is our early learning and childcare?, Health and Social Care Standards, Curriculum for Excellence and Building the Ambition.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as 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 parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child; safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

"Croileagan is a wonderful nursery. I am delighted with the care they provide. All members of staff are caring, approachable and fantastic with the children. My child loves attending Croileagan and cannot wait to go each day."

"I think the service and staff at Croileagan are brilliant. Very attentive and friendly, easy to approach and give helpful advice plus provide fun days for parents and children. I am very happy that my daughter attends."

"Croileagan is a fantastic learning environment. The staff are friendly and approachable while acting in a professional manner at all times. They provide stimulating learning opportunities and make use of resources in the local community. I feel that all the staff have a good relationship with my child and that she feels safe and

secure there. Children are encouraged to be confident and independent, and I feel fortunate that my child has the opportunity to attend such a service."

"I cannot fault the standard at Croileagan, and they provide a welcome from staff when my child arrives."

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 of the quality of the provision within 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 | 5 - Very Good |
| Quality of management and leadership | 4 - Good |

What the service does well

We found that a warm and nurturing ethos had been established, and that families were warmly welcomed to the service by experienced members of staff.

We observed members of staff providing physical comfort and verbal reassurance to children who were distressed due to separation (from mothers) or had minor bumps when falling in the playground. Children responded by quickly returning to play and aware that staff were always there for support.

Children had a number of opportunities to influence how the service was delivered by; taking part in the compilation of mind maps and floor books (participation tools), discussions during circle time, one to one conversations with staff and choosing what to play with.

A very good selection of loose parts were available for children, who on the day of inspection, had constructed a boat that was sailing to Kuala Lumpur via Invergordon, built a police station and discovering the many uses of ice.

The nursery was laid out in such a way that children could choose and access equipment independently.

Members of staff assisted by exploring learning opportunities with children, suggesting equipment that would aid further learning and extending language by asking pertinent questions.

We found that a medication policy and procedure was in place, and that protocols for children who were on 'as and when' required medication were in place and reviewed on a regular basis.

A healthy lifestyle was promoted and children were provided with healthy drinks and snacks during the day. Outdoor play was a regular part of the day and children were able to choose when they went out to play.

We examined two staff records and found them to be satisfactory. Members of staff had been recruited following best practice guidelines, protecting vulnerable group checks had been carried out and an induction period had been put in place.

Members of staff worked well together encouraging the children to explore their environment and play, as well as offering advice and guidance when required. Children were confident, inquisitive and enjoyed the days activities.

Regular staff meetings had taken place along with members of staff attending training on a regular basis. A staff development programme was in place and 360 degree assessments had been completed. An action plan was in place and this was time bound and monitored by the manager and committee.

What the service could do better

We found that loose parts were available to children both in and out of doors and that they were making full use of them. Additional loose parts could be acquired as this type of play material encouraged children to problem solve, work together and encourage imaginary play.

Children were introduced to numeracy by a number of different methods and activities which were welcomed by children. By applying the same principles to introducing literacy to children would be welcomed. Creating an area outside where children could sit comfortably and scan books or pictorial magazines would help when introducing literacy.

We looked at a number of children's learning journeys and found the quality to be variable. We suggest that the service identifies a format that it is comfortable with and demonstrates children's learning and achievements.

Children's immersion in Gaelic was evident, and this learning was embedded with lots of songs and rhymes which the children enjoyed at circle time.

To continue providing children with challenges, it may be worth considering the value of circle times as one group. There are occasions when this is beneficial and important, but there may be other times when younger children are unable to settle and older children require a more challenging discussion.

One newly recruited member of staff has agreed to study for a recognised childcare qualification and to attend child protection training.

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 |
|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| 18 Nov 2016 | Unannounced | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed |
| 7 Jan 2015 | Unannounced | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good |
| 8 Jan 2013 | Unannounced | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good |
| 24 Jan 2011 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed |
| 3 Mar 2010 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support 4 - Good Environment Not assessed Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed |
| 27 Mar 2009 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good |

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