

Clovenfords Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Clovenfords Primary School
Clovenfords
Galashiels
TD1 3LQ

Telephone: 01896 662755

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

19 June 2019

Service provided by:

Scottish Borders Council

Service provider number:

SP2003001976

Service no:

CS2003048117

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 has been registered since 2002

Clovenfords Primary School Nursery is referred to as the nursery in this report. The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children at any one time aged between three years and entry into primary school.

The nursery is situated within Clovenfords Primary School which is a modern build in the small village of Clovenfords in the Scottish Borders. The nursery have a large playroom with direct access to the outdoor area. There is an additional meeting room, large hallway, laundry facilities, accessible toilet and nappy changing facilities.

Aims for the nursery are in place and included:

'As children learn and develop skills we aim to build on experiences and opportunities which parents provide and extend his/her learning based on his/her observed needs.'

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 GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

We spoke to several children during our visit to the nursery. They were keen to show us their nursery and tell us about what they did there. Children told us they liked coming to nursery and would be sad to go to school. Children said that they liked being able to be outside all day, one commented they didn't like being out in the rain but they had coats and wellies.

As part of the inspection process we issue a care standard questionnaire to a sample of parents. We received seven out of nine questionnaires issued. As it had been some time since this questionnaire had been issued, we also gathered views from parents through e-mail. Four parents responded to the request for e-mail comments. We spoke to three parents who had shared their contact details on the care standard questionnaire. Parents all agreed that overall they were happy with the quality of care their child received in the nursery. Comments included:

'The learning journals are beautiful and children love to show them to their parents. I feel staff know my child well and what they are capable of.'

'I feel that the quality of care in the setting is exceptional. Staff are very devoted to the children and their enjoyment of the nursery experience.'

'Staff were very responsive to a concern I had and worked with me and my child to find a solution. Very happy.'

'Staff do an amazing job with the children. They are also there for parents if needed.'

'Staff provide a good level of support for my child.'

'The staff are nurturing and caring and take a real interest in the children's well-being and encourage achievement both inside and outside of the nursery setting. A high level of care is shown towards all children and they are given support to progress and develop in their learning. We could not ask for better role models for our children.'

'There is a super range of activities and toys within the nursery, as well as a lovely outdoor space which is utilised in all weathers. We have not had occasion to raise any issues as such with the staff, but I know they would be very available should that need arise, and are always very happy to help. The children's learning journeys are also beautifully put together and provide a great insight to the time spent at nursery.'

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:

Quality of care and support	4 - 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 provided a good level of nurture for children which helped them develop a feeling of security and confidence. They achieved this through getting to know children and families very well through a range of written and verbal information gathered at the start of and throughout the placement. There was some evidence of work with external professionals such as speech and language therapists. Parents we spoke to commented on the positive and welcoming approach of staff which helped parents and children form positive and open relationships with staff. This enabled good communication about children and their wider family. This information was used effectively to develop personal plans for each child which detailed the support they received to promote positive outcomes.

A focus of the nursery was the promotion of children's health and wellbeing. The outdoor area was open and available to children for nearly the entire session. Children moved freely between the two environments making the most of the fresh air and opportunity to play outdoors. Snack foods were healthy and included foods made by children who told us they liked baking and helping to make snack. Snack provided children with a very social experience. This time was well supported by staff who encouraged conversations among peers, helped children to be independent and respectful of each other. The nursery had child protection procedures, which were available for parents to read. Child protection training had been undertaken by staff to support them in this area of their professional responsibility.

The environment provided children with a welcoming and interesting place to learn through play. We could see that activities were planned, evaluated and reflected children's interests. The playroom was attractively laid out to enable children to play alone or in small or large groups. Children used the outdoor environment very well and were busy and engaged in their play. The area provided a wide range of play opportunities which were well supported by the use of natural and open ended resources which encourage the use of imaginative and creative play.

There were a number of policies and procedures in place to tell parents how staff cared for children in nursery. These procedures also supported staff practice in areas such as infection control, assessment of risk and recording of accidents and incidents. Children were enabled to take risks in their play, which helped to build confidence and problem solving. Children were encouraged to be responsible for how they behaved and how this impacted on their friends. Children could share with us the simple boundaries that were in place to show how they should behave and how the environment could be used. This reflective approach encouraged children to be reflective and have confidence to challenge each other when boundaries were breached.

What the service could do better

We have commented that staff knew children well and offered a good level of individualised support which included access to additional professional input. We have asked that staff ensure they can evaluate the support offered to individual children by identifying how that support has led to positive outcomes for individual children. This will ensure that they can clearly see if more support is needed or if they need to try something different to achieve a next step in a child's development.

Procedures for the administration and storage of medication were in place. We have asked staff to ensure that the signs and symptoms which would result in medication being administered were clearly recorded in each child's personal and medication plan.

Group time can be an important part of the day when children get together to reflect on their experiences or when staff 'check in' with children. Staff should ensure that these times engage all children and have a specific purpose.

We spoke to staff about loose and open ended resources, which were used extensively and to very good effect outdoors. These could be incorporated more in the indoor environment as they reflected the play ethos of the nursery.

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.

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
16 Dec 2015	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>
17 Jun 2010	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>Not assessed</div>
12 Mar 2009	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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