

# Cornton Nursery Day Care of Children

40 - 42 Lomond Crescent  
Cornton  
Stirling  
FK9 5DN

Telephone: 01786 237 910

**Type of inspection:**

Unannounced

**Completed on:**

16 August 2019

**Service provided by:**

Stirling Council

**Service provider number:**

SP2003002689

**Service no:**

CS2003015004

## About the service

This service has been registered since 2002.

Cornton Nursery is provided by Stirling Council. It is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 66 children aged 0 to those not yet attending primary school as follows;

- A maximum of six children aged under two years
- A maximum of 20 children aged two to under three years.

During school holidays care can be provided to children up to the age of 12 years with;

- A maximum of six children aged under two years
- A maximum of 20 children aged two to under three years.

The service is now offering extended provision of 08:00 to 18:00; 08:00 to 13:00 and 13:00 to 18:00 sessions.

The service aims to "ensure all children feel welcome, secure, valued and enabled to develop positive relationships and a sense of belonging". Staff promote "children having equal access to play experiences, enabling them to use and develop knowledge and skills and appreciate the local and wider environment".

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. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators.

Parents and carers will be referred to as 'parents' throughout this report.

## What people told us

We spoke with many of the children during our visit and observed them all during our time in the playrooms and gardens. We found children to be confident and happy during their time in the service. They were able to express their views and make requests to staff. The children had opportunities to play freely in the large spaces available to them and staff offered support and challenge when needed. We spoke with one child whilst he was gardening who told us that 'Every child should come to this nursery'.

We sent 20 care standards questionnaires to parents of children who attend the service. We received nine completed questionnaires before the inspection. All parents 'strongly agreed' that overall, they were happy with the quality of care and support their child received in this service. We have included some comments below which represent the parents' views. All comments were shared with the leadership team:

'Our experience has been a very positive one. The staff are always very happy and professional. They approach me weekly with updates on my child and with what is happening within the nursery. The key worker regularly updates my child's book and offers me the chance to put in my updates. My child enjoys nursery'.

'As a parent and former teacher, I have given the staff training on a voluntary basis and served on an interview panel. Staff have acted upon feedback I have given in a thorough and diligent manner. At all times I have been

impressed with the nursery's ethos and staff's professionalism and dedication to the care of the children. Most importantly, my little one loves the nursery and the staff'.

'This is a good service with excellent staff who have great relationships with children. Progress covered in the handwritten journals would be good if moved to digital journals for accessibility'.

'Cornton nursery is a fantastic establishment and my child has really flourished there. A particular strength of the staff team has been how they promote children's sense of pride in their local community, through regular community action days and litter picking'.

'My children love going to nursery. The staff are good, helpful and supportive. They love the option of being outside'.

'I've used Cornton for over three years and I can honestly say that the staff put in a tremendous amount of effort in creating a safe and positive learning environment. They are always friendly and approachable and work hard to ensure the children are actively engaged in the life of the nursery'.

'Staff are fantastic and explain everything clearly to parents. They involve us by speaking with us and use of social media. They take opinions seriously and respect your decisions as a parent'.

## Self assessment

We did not request a self assessment as part of this inspection. We viewed the service's internal improvement plan during our inspection.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	6 - Excellent

## What the service does well

Children thrived in the service due to the team's enabling attitude and belief in their potential. Care and support offered was targeted and right for the children and their families. The strong focus on emotional support and resilience helped to build children's confidence, self-esteem and sense of worth and belonging. The family based care and support resulted in strong and trusting relationships between staff and parents. For example; extended (and more strategy-based) home visits supported a child who was not coping well with the settling in process, was one clear strength we identified. We spoke with their parent who felt very valued and appreciated the extra lengths staff went to, to help settle her child. The service demonstrated exceptional adaptability to suit children's needs and offered excellent emotional support to them and their families at different times in their lives.

Children enjoyed an unhurried snack and lunch time. Staff sat with them, interacted and encouraged this to be a social and pleasant experience. Children's rights were respected; they were treated as an individual and as

capable and competent. Opportunities for children to develop life skills and become independent were well-balanced and purposeful.

A significant success of this service was its family and community work. 'Community Action Days' gave children the opportunity to educate others and raise awareness of issues affecting their area. Litter picking, fly tipping and dog fouling had all been highlighted and have reduced as a result. The service lived a holistic approach which empowered and enabled families to become involved in the life of the service. For instance; they supported parents with funding, seeking support from other professionals and making positive connections with other parents. This support was returned by parents who helped with activities, sat on interview panels and volunteered to help with staff training they had skills in, such as 'mindfulness training'. The warm and compassionate care we observed extended to the family. Parents aspirations for their children were respected and resulted in excellent outcomes for children.

Effective foundations of staff practice that were in place resulted in favourable experiences and outcomes for children. These were captured in their journals which gave a good sense of the child, their interests, their progress and the parents contributions. Learning intentions were identified, and summaries of learning were created throughout the year. These mirrored the embedded and respectful ethos and resulted in children experiencing excellent outcomes through their interactions with staff, visitors and each other.

Staff had continued to work hard to maintain an environment where children were treated fairly, challenged, included in all aspects of their care and were participants in the development of the service. The respect indicated within the practice and interactions of staff was mirrored by the management team and around the physical environment. Children felt free and safe to explore, inquire and create alongside their peers. The team skilfully picked up on key prompts from the children offering guidance and challenge where appropriate.

The prolonged episodes of play and examples of children returning to past or paused play were sensitively and expertly supported by the team. They made good use of an effective questioning and commenting approach which encouraged children to problem solve, ponder and apply past learning to new and exciting situations. The play-based philosophy was evident in the time and space the children had to explore and investigate their varied environments and resources. The accessible equipment, outdoors and planting areas provided a wealth of rich opportunities play opportunities to the children. One positive outcome of this was the tracked development of children's language and literacy skills which the team were working hard to help enhance.

A nurturing approach was embedded in the culture and filtered through the staff and management team's practice. This was evident in the caring, fun and loving interactions we observed. The team had high expectations of themselves, each other and the children which further strengthened an entrenched culture of continuous development and pride in their work. Leadership at all levels further engrained this sense of achievement and fuelled the drive forward to continually enhance the positive outcomes for families.

Embedded reflective practice, shared leadership and collective responsibility enabled the team to excel in their goals and aspirations for the children who attend. The management team had a clear vision and respectful ways of working which promoted outstanding outcomes and benefits for children, staff and parents. The smart use of current best practice, publications, tools, theory and websites built a quality assurance system which enabled the whole team to understand their key strengths and carve the way forward to future improvements and successes.

## What the service could do better

The service should continue to embed and enhance their practice and outstanding work with children and families. They were aware of the changes that the expansion would bring and had plans in place to continue to reflect on the children's experiences and maintain the high quality outcomes for them.

## 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](http://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
11 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 6 - Excellent
25 Nov 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
26 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
12 Nov 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
23 Feb 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
12 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good

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