

## Auchnagatt & District Pre-School Centre Day Care of Children

Arnage Primary School  
Auchnagatt  
Ellon  
AB41 8UX

Telephone: 07914667691

**Type of inspection:**

Unannounced

**Completed on:**

29 October 2019

**Service provided by:**

Auchnagatt & District Pre-School  
Centre

**Service provider number:**

SP2003000412

**Service no:**

CS2003002535

## About the service

This service has been registered since 2002.

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. Getting it right for every child 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 Getting it right for every child. 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.

Auchnagatt & District Pre-school Centre is registered to provide a day care of children service to a maximum of 24 children aged 3 years to those not yet attending primary school. The service operates from a designated classroom within Arnage Primary School located in Ellon, Aberdeenshire. The pre-school group serves the village of Auchnagatt, the small community of Arnage and the surrounding rural area. A voluntary parent committee are responsible for providing the service and parents are actively encouraged to be involved in all aspects of the service.

The services aims to:

- Promote a happy healthy, safe and stimulating environment in which children feel secure, valued and achieve.
- Work towards learning goals and strive for each child to meet their fullest learning potential and support each child's learning and emotional needs.
- Develop and support that learning need by creating next steps for each child and working in partnership with parents and others through good communication and consultation.

A full statement of aims and objectives is available from the service.

We carried out an unannounced inspection of this service on 29 October 2019 and spoke with five children and three members of staff. We observed practice and checked documentation relevant to the inspection. Feedback was given to the manager and chairperson of the committee at the end of the inspection.

## What people told us

Children were happy and nurtured in nursery. They were independent and used the environment to suit their needs. They were settled and enjoyed having visitors in the nursery. Children's voices were valued and respected by staff.

We had seven Care Standards Questionnaires completed and returned to us during our inspection. We also

had one staff questionnaire returned to us. Overall, all parents indicated they were happy with the quality of care their child received. Some additional comments from parents included:

- They support the whole family, they know us all really well which offers so much support.
- My child's interests were explored based on wishes she expressed not just on one subject but several.
- The staff are excellent. They really get to know each one individually and know how to respond to different situations with each child.
- Very welcoming and supporting environment which my child enjoys attending.

One parent commented on their child's settling in experience and how it could have been better due to a change over in staff. They advised that they had observed settling in sessions for new children and thought they were of a high standard.

## Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their Improvement Plan which 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	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

## What the service does well

Confident children were nurtured by staff who supported them to make choices and form positive relationships with their peers. Staff promoted self awareness and responsibility for children and this had resulted in a caring and inclusive space for children where they could safely express themselves. Most children were inquisitive, confident and keen to engage in learning experiences.

Personal plans were in place for all children with additional wellbeing plans in place if required. Parents were involved in discussions about their child's support needs. They worked closely with other agencies to support children and ensure the continuity of care. We observed staff supporting children to problem solve and reach compromises with their peers in a kind and caring manner. They communicated with children in a way that was tailored to each individual. This helped to promote positive self esteem and confidence. Praise and encouragement were used by staff to empower children when tackling new tasks and trying new things.

As a newly formed staff team they worked well together and had created a supportive and inclusive environment. They deployed themselves to suit the needs of the children. Staff we spoke with were committed to ensuring the improvement and development of the service.

They had just completed the refurbishment and move into their new playroom within the school. The new playroom was bright and welcoming with two huge windows overlooking the green outdoor space. As they had

just moved into the playroom the manager advised that the layout of the playroom would be monitored to make sure it met children's needs.

Children having independent access to the dedicated outdoor space was still being considered with the manager researching how to minimise the barriers. She advised of piloting different ways to see what worked best for children. This was positive as although there were barriers in place the manager was keen to maximise children's choice and independent skill opportunities. We discussed how this could be achieved.

The dedicated outdoor space was well laid out and provided both natural and planned experiences. We observed children using the grassed area of the school grounds to explore and hide. One child gave us a tour of the space and told us all the interesting things such as the fairy door and the best trees for climbing. Children were really engaged in outdoor play and were creative with their play. They had plans to expand and develop outdoors with increased opportunities for risky, explorative and imaginative play opportunities which would enhance wellbeing, resilience and development outcomes. The managers dog was present in the service and was a firm favourite with the children. She advised that she had used the 'Animal Magic' best practice document to enhance children's experiences of animals in services.

The service's Improvement Plan highlighted what was important to the service and where they needed to develop further in both the short term and long term future. This meant that they had a clear vision for the service and considered action points to make improvements.

## What the service could do better

We discussed reviewing the personal plan paperwork for children so that the information being recorded was meaningful, targeted and supported positive outcomes. **(See recommendation 1)**

There was some conflicting information with regards to a previous issue within the service. As the voluntary management committee were new they advised that they did not immediate access to the information which would enable them to make an informed decision as to whether it was a notifiable event or not. They were not aware of the notification requirements for the Care Inspectorate. We asked them to notify us once they had gathered all the relevant information. **(See recommendation 2)**

The pace of the day, specifically around accessing outdoors and lunchtime, should be reviewed to limit any unnecessary waiting times and interruptions to children's play. We discussed using best practice documents found on <https://hub.careinspectorate.com/> to inform staff practice and enhance existing knowledge and skills.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 2

1. The provider should review the paperwork relating to personal plans to ensure that the information being recorded was meaningful, individualised and allowed effective monitoring of children's learning and development needs and progress.

This ensures that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which state that: 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.' (HSCS 4.11)

2. The provider must ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities for submitting notifications to the Care Inspectorate. This includes all circumstances in which the Care Inspectorate must be notified and required timescales. Systems should be in place to ensure that the Care Inspectorate is notified of all circumstances, which can be found in 'Records services must keep and guidance on notification reporting' document. Submitting notifications and providing relevant information permits the Care Inspectorate to fulfil their regulatory functions.

This ensures that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which state that: 'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.' (HSCS 3.14)

## 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	
13 Sep 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed 4 - Good
3 Oct 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
14 Dec 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate 4 - Good 3 - Adequate
17 Feb 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	3 - Adequate Not assessed Not assessed 3 - Adequate
31 Aug 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good

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