

Munlochy Pre-School Centre

Day Care of Children

Village Hall
Millbank Road
Munlochy
IV8 8NL

Telephone: 01463 811062

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

8 January 2020

Service provided by:

CALA Direct Management Services

Service provider number:

SP2010011106

Service no:

CS2014323942

About the service

Munlochy pre-school centre is based in the village hall in the village of Munlochy. The children are cared for in the purpose built nursery room which is off the main hall. The toilets and main hall are shared with other organisations.

The service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since April 2011 and is registered to provide a service to a maximum of 16 children at any one time aged 2.5 years to those not yet attending primary school of whom no more than four will be aged under three years. The care service will operate Monday to Friday during term time only.

The aims of the service were to:

1. To provide an inspiring environment for children, that allows opportunities for exploration and investigation that stimulates the imagination and creativity for all children.
2. We support children to develop in their confidence and development of their skills. We will do this by ensuring that we take account the age and stage of the children and use guidelines detailed in Building the Ambition.
3. Our staff will take time to get to know the individual children and will provide a safe, nurturing environment. Staff will have good knowledge of the individual needs of children to allow them to effectively support progression and ensure that children have an environment where they are safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, responsible, respected and included.
4. We will ensure that we engage with parents to allow them to feel welcomed and valued in the centre. We all work with parents to give children the best possible start.
5. We will engage in effective and meaningful self-evaluation to review on the provision, involving all stakeholders to allow us to achieve shared goals and objectives.

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. These are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

What people told us

We spoke to a number of children and they were happy to interact with us during the inspection. They told us the following about their experiences at the service;

"I'm making a picture for my mum".

"Look I have a caterpillar"

"I like breadsticks"

"Come and play"

We sent five care standard questionnaires to parents/carers of children who attend the service. Three

questionnaires were returned to us prior to inspection from parents/carers. We spoke with five parents during the inspection. All parents were very happy with the quality of service.

Some comments include;

"Very friendly staff and welcoming. Helped me settle my very shy (child) and they didn't make me feel rushed. Excellent setting"

"I am very happy with the service and my child has settled very well here"

"The staff are very welcoming, I was happy that I was able to stay for a few weeks with my child when (child) first started. (Child) now likes coming here and the staff are very good with (child)".

"Brilliant staff - my child's speech has come on so well since my child has started coming to this pre school".

"Delighted with the service my child fitted in really well".

"My child loves coming here and we get emails and newsletters from the staff with lots of relevant information".

Self assessment

The service has not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We sought information linked to their own improvement plan and discussion with staff on the days of the inspection visit. These helped us to identify 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	4 - Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children and adults were warmly welcomed into the pre-school, which helped them to feel included and valued from the moment they entered the service. Children were cared for by staff who were kind and caring in their role. We saw that the staff knew the children and their parents well and had a positive nurturing relationships towards them. The staff were able to talk to us confidently about all children's needs. Overall, children were supported well, with staff responded appropriately to their needs and interests. We saw good interactions between staff and children, with staff responsive to the individual needs of each child.

On the day of the inspection, children played happily and had access to a range of age and stage appropriate resources. Children could easily choose activities and access most resources available. This valued children's choices and developed their independence. The service had developed the outside area considerably since the last inspection. Staff were keen to discuss further plans to promote loose parts play both indoors and outdoors. The inclusion of loose parts will help promote learning, imagination, and creative thinking.

The children's voice was captured well through floor books and art work displayed. This gave children some ownership. Learning journeys were sampled and noted; many had been shared with parents and carers. Staff had an understanding that these records had needed to be developed so that the content was less descriptive and more outcome based linked to learning achieved and next steps identified.

During the inspection visit, we observed a very sociable snack. All the children told us how they like . snack that was provided. The options for snack took account of current nutritional guidance as well as any allergies or dietary needs children attending may have. This was a relaxing part of the day and we saw staff chatting to the children to create a positive social experience. This helped the children to feel included, build confidence and be part of a group.

The staff in the service has access to training and were knowledgeable of the child protection procedures. Staff understood their role in keeping children safe and knew the procedures to follow if they had a concern. All staff were qualifiedly trained and registered with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). This showed that the staff had experience and knowledge to improve the outcomes for children and to reflect on their training and use this in practice.

The staff team had been joined by a new manager in the recent months to support the staff team to achieve the ongoing improvement in outcomes for children and families using the service. Staff valued the regular support given by the manager. Staff told us the manager made weekly visits to the service and used these visits to carry out team meetings, and providing feedback where appropriate to support improvement.

What the service could do better

Since the last inspection, there had been a change of the staff team. We discussed with the manager the need to plan formal monitoring, identifying specific areas to focus on when evaluating experiences and outcomes for the children. This will ensure that all activities are reviewed and monitored to ensure they are appropriate to the needs and interests of children throughout the service.

Staff need to develop their skills for capturing significant learning for each child and further develop the sharing of the children's achievements with parents/carers through the learning journals. We agreed these could be developed to enable peer monitoring to evolve which may help upskill staff and raise confidence. This will then enable the manager to discuss the staff's practice and improve interactions and experiences for the children.

Toothbrushing resources were available in the pre-school. However, children did not have the opportunity to brush their teeth. Encouraging the children to brush their teeth would promote a holistic approach to healthy living and teach children an important life skill. During feedback the management agreed to address this.

The staff were positive about extending the opportunities for outdoor learning. We also discussed how they could introduce more natural authentic resources both outdoors and in the playroom. We directed staff to various examples of best practice documents online to support this.

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
31 May 2017	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>
4 Jun 2015	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>4 - Good</div>

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

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