

Lochside Pre School Class Day Care of Children

Lochside Primary School
Glenesk Avenue
Montrose
DD10 9AN

Telephone: 01674 907513

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
12 March 2020

Service provided by:
Angus Council

Service provider number:
SP2003000043

Service no:
CS2003016862

About the service

Lochside Primary School Class is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 36 children of a pre-school age, aged 3 years and over.

The service is situated within the grounds of Lochside Primary School and is provided by Angus Council. The nursery room is open plan with one main and two smaller play areas; there are also dedicated toilet facilities and a large outdoor play and learning area.

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

Throughout the inspection, we found that children were happy and engaged in the variety of opportunities available to them. We spoke with children throughout to gather their views and opinions of the service. All children spoke positively about their experiences. Comments included:

"Look at my birthday cake!"

"I can't write my name, so you have to do it."

"We didn't even get to play."

"I cut it! I could do it because it was so soft."

"That's the coolest thing I have ever seen"

"We have different lunch all the time."

"Don't laugh anymore because if you laugh more, then you'll have hiccups longer."

We received 10 completed questionnaires from parents and carers prior to the inspection. Five parents 'strongly agreed' and five parents 'agreed' with the statement 'Overall I am happy with the quality of care my child receives'. Most parents reported a very high level of satisfaction with the service, the staff and the support their children received at the service.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection.

We looked at their own quality assurance paperwork, including their improvement plan. These demonstrated the service priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of their provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

During the inspection we considered the quality of care and support, from the evidence gathered during our inspection we evaluated this theme as good. We also looked at the quality of the management and leadership which we evaluated as very good.

Throughout the inspection, children were seen to be engaged in a variety of play and learning experiences. Staff worked well to facilitate different spaces that were inspiring for the children to explore and investigate. A particular focus of improvement since the previous inspection was enhancing the children's outdoor experiences. Children benefitted from an exciting and diverse outdoor space that promoted investigation, problem solving and curiosity. Staff were enthusiastic in the development of this space and showed an enabling attitude in designing with space with the help of children's views and opinions.

Children's play and learning experiences were captured with learning journals. Staff took pride in creating the journals so that they provided children with an engaging and fun way to reflect on their experiences. We reminded the service of the importance of showing the thread of learning and experiences for the individual children. Staff told us they were working to improve children's next steps to ensure they are purposeful and meaningful.

Children were supported through positive and respectful interactions. Staff were supported to reflect on their practice and identify learning opportunities through regular performance review meetings and coaching conversations. The senior leadership team worked effectively to implement leadership roles within the service to enhance autonomy within the service and empower staff to improve outcomes for children.

Parent and carers were found to have a good range of opportunities to be included within their child's care. Events such as the VIP café and planned sessions, enabled parents and carers to take part in informal activities and build positive relationships with staff. Parents spoke highly of these events, commenting on the vital support it had provided to them and their family. We found that this promoted an inclusive and nurturing culture within the service.

What the service could do better

Staff were found to know individual children well. We reminded the service of the importance of all children have the appropriate information recorded within their personal care plan. This is to ensure children's needs are identified and there is consistency in how their needs will be met.

During the inspection, we reviewed the services procedures in the storing, administration and recording of medication. We found that there were some inconsistencies in how medication was recorded and signposted the service to guidance, available on The Hub to support them with improvements. We highlighted the importance of having individualised health plans in place that detail children's medical needs and clearly outline steps of treatment required. This ensures children who require medication are given it in a safe and effective way.

Children were able to direct their own play. We discussed ways in which the staff could improve the opportunities for challenging and responsibility within a child's day. For example, we found there were missed opportunities for children to explore and manage risk. We suggested way in which risk assessments could be further development to actively involve children more and promote problem solving. Children were given some responsibility in the preparation and eating of snack. We discussed how this could be further developed to enhance children's skills and promote independence.

Auditing and monitoring by the senior management team were found to be in place for focussed experiences. We suggested ways in which this could be built upon, through methods such as peer monitoring, to further develop a collaborative approach to care and support. This would enable a more consistent approach to children's experiences and how they are evaluated.

We found the improvement plan for the service was clear and focused on relevant improvements. The senior management team should continue to use an inclusive approach to their self-evaluation to ensure they listen and act upon feedback given from children, parents, carers and staff. We highlighted the importance of reflecting on changes regularly to ensure they have a positive impact on outcomes for children.

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	
24 Jan 2017	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
25 Jan 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
20 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
23 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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