

## First 4 Kids SCIO Carron Day Care of Children

Carron Primary School  
Alloa Road  
Carron  
Falkirk  
FK2 8EJ

Telephone: 07971 911 918

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
25 August 2021

**Service provided by:**  
First 4 Kids a Scottish Charitable  
Incorporated Organisation

**Service provider number:**  
SP2018013072

**Service no:**  
CS2018364515

## About the service

First 4 Kids SCIO Carron was registered with the care inspectorate on 15 May 2018. The service is registered;

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of 32 primary school age children at any one time

Any other conditions unique to the service:

2. Adult:child ratios will be a minimum of:

- 3. years and over -1:8 if the children attend more than 4 hours per day, or

- 1:10 if the children attend for less than 4 hours per day • If all children are over 8 years old and over 1:10

3. During the operating times the service will have the exclusive use of areas within the premises as designated by the Centre Manager.

4. The manager is also the manager of the following services:

\*First 4 Kids Bantaskin CS2018364517

\*First 4 Kids Carronshore CS2018364515

\*First 4 Kids Maddiston CS2018364510

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). This is 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. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

The service operates from Carron Primary School Centre where they have sole use of a room, corridor area access to the playground for outdoor play.

During school holidays the the service is operated from another site - St Francis primary school in Bainsford and parents have the opportunity to use this service if needed. At this site children have access to a spacious gym hall. One part of the playground enabled free flow access to outdoors. Other playground areas offered children the opportunity to play in the woods and use the trim trail where they could develop their physical skills and take risk in their play.

## What people told us

We spoke with three children and one parent at the inspection.

Children were well settled in the service and had established strong relationships with staff. The interactions with staff were fun and relaxed. They told us they liked coming to the club and had lots of activities to do. They could choose what they wanted to do and resources were easy to get.

Parents were happy with the service provided. They chatted with staff when they collected their children.

## From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	4 - Good
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Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

## How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?

4 - Good

**Quality Indicator 5.1: Children's health and wellbeing are supported and safeguarded during the Covid-19 Pandemic.**

- Children are nurtured and supported throughout their changed experience in their early learning and childcare setting.
- Effective communication with families enables responsive care to support children through changing circumstances.

We saw that staff were kind and caring towards children which had helped them develop respectful relationships. Floor books evidenced how children had been supported on their return from the service. They had opportunities to talk about their experiences during lockdown and how they felt about being back at the club which helped re-establish friendships. Staff had revisited the wellbeing indicators with children so they were able to give examples of how their needs were met at the service. As a result we saw that children felt supported and had good relationships with staff as they were responsive to their individual needs.

During lockdown, digital platforms were used to share information about the service and changes being made. Parents had appreciated this as they felt well informed and kept up to date about plans being made in response to Covid-19. A new app had been introduced to record children's attendance and let staff know when children would be collected.

Before children returned, contact had been made with families so they had up to date information about children. Where updates were discussed verbally, we asked that staff record this on the plans. Personal plans (All about me) were in place and contained information about children's individual needs. Action plans were in place for children with an additional or health needs which outlined strategies that should be used to support children. The staff team demonstrated they knew children well and worked together to provide consistent care.

Children were happy to be back at the service where they were able to see their friends. They were actively involved as they could organise their own games and activities. From floor books we saw children had planned a range of experiences such as baking, Hallowe'en activities and arts and craft. Children also evaluated the activities which demonstrated their opinions and views were valued and ensured their interests were catered for.

One child had become involved in developing a review system to assess if the environment so it was inviting for all children. They had taken photographs of all the areas and asked children to give their opinions about them. Using children's views had enabled staff to make changes so equipment so they found all areas more stimulating.

Staff were clear about their responsibilities in respect of safeguarding children and the process in place to report any concerns.

**Quality indicator 5.2: Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff.**

- Children are protected as staff take all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of infection.

A Covid-19 risk assessment had been completed to support staff practice. Systems had been put in place to limit the risk of transmission which followed current guidance. For example, parents were not routinely permitted into the building and enhanced cleaning was in place.

The organisation had bought portable sinks to enable frequent hand washing. They also has hand sanitising stations which children used on arrival from school. We advised that it was preferable that they should wash their hands when coming from another setting and could designate one of the sinks in the room for this purpose.

Staff prepared the environment before children arrived from school. Staff talked knowledgeably about ways to minimise transmission such as cleaning and rotating resources. Staff participated in lateral flow testing and taking the temperatures of adults in the service. There was an isolation procedure in place if anyone presented with Covid-19 symptoms.

In line with current guidance, staff maximised the use of outdoors. Children were involved in deciding how the outdoor experience could be improved for them. This included planning what activities they wanted to do, going out earlier in the winter months and ensuring they had appropriate clothing as they were out more in colder weather. Staff were considering how they could improve access to outdoors by developing a free flow system that would suit the layout of the service.

The organisation had secured funding for improve outdoor areas to include shelter, storage and new equipment. A questionnaire had been given to children so they could share their ideas about what they would like to see.

### **Quality indicator 5.3: Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during COVID-19.**

- Staffing arrangements meet the needs of children and families.
- Staff are well supported and confident.

There was an established staff team in place at the service. They had undertaken Covid-19 training and told us that this had helped them have confidence in their role. They had familiarised themselves with the procedures outlined in the the risk assessment which supported safe practice. We therefore saw that staff socially distanced well, wore face masks when needed and carried out enhanced cleaning, all of which reduced the risk of transmission. We advised that face coverings should be stored in a washable, sealed bag when not in use and this was implemented quickly.

As an organisation, information had been shared with parents and children about Relax kids. This offered families a range of tools and techniques aimed at supporting mindfulness which helped children's emotional well-being.

The manager and staff talked about the impact Covid-19 had on development work, which we acknowledged. There was an improvement plan in place and we saw how changes had been made in response of Covid-19. They had concentrated on children's well-being, increasing the use of outdoors and ensuring staff and children understood the changes being introduced. As restrictions ease, and the service starts to operate full time, the manager and staff will review the improvement plan and will agree the priorities for development.

The area manager was in regular contact with the services they were responsible for to offer support and guidance. This meant they were aware of how services were operating and if staff felt supported. To ensure the systems were effective, staff had the opportunity to share their views in a survey. They were able to

feedback how training had been implemented into practice, how effective communication was and make any suggestions for improvement. By gathering staff views, the management team has been able to identify areas for improvement which will further develop the service they offer.

During the school holidays the club operated from the St. Francis site. If any of the children used it, the manager ensured staff that children knew are on duty which promoted continuity of care.

## Detailed evaluations

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	4 - Good
5.1 Children's health and well being are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19	4 - Good
5.2 Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff	4 - Good
5.3 Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during COVID-19	4 - Good

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