

Newhill Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Blairgowrie Community Campus
Hamish Henderson Place
Blairgowrie
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Telephone: 01250 871 941

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
12 May 2022

Service provided by:
Perth & Kinross Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003370

Service no:
CS2003016073

About the service

Newhill Primary School Nursery is situated in the town of Blairgowrie. It provides a daycare of children service for a maximum of 122 children aged from two years to those not yet attending primary school. Perth and Kinross Council provide the service.

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 12 May 2022 between 09:30 and 17:00. Three early years inspectors carried out the inspection. Feedback to the management team took place 12 May 2022.

To prepare for inspection we reviewed information about the service. This included registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered throughout the inspection year.

To inform our evaluations we:

- observed practice and children's experiences indoors and outdoors
- spoke with children who experienced care at the service and six parents/carers
- spoke with the staff and management team
- reviewed relevant documentation

What people told us

Children told us about their experiences of attending the service. They told us they had fun playing with their friends, enthusiastically demonstrating their skills as they joined in a variety of activities. Children were animated as they spoke about their nursery and the activities they enjoyed. Comments included,

'It's the queen's birthday next week, we are making a cake',

'I love to play outside',

'I learned to go on a pedal bike!'

As part of the inspection, we received views from six parents and carers of children who attend the service. All parents said that they were very happy with the quality of care their children receive. Several parents commented on the quality of staff at the service. Comments included "Staff are approachable and would do anything for you, always help solve problems."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to submit a self-assessment prior to the inspection. As part of the inspection, we reviewed the services quality assurance processes and improvement plan which demonstrated their priorities for improvement.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

We inspected two quality themes, care and support, and staffing. Both quality themes were evaluated as very good because there were major strengths in supporting positive outcomes for children.

The positive ethos within the service meant that children experienced warm, caring and nurturing interactions from staff. We saw that close relationships had been formed as children felt safe, secure and relaxed in the setting. As a result, they were confident about approaching staff as they knew they would be listened to, and their ideas supported.

Effective information sharing with parents and link professionals meant that all children had personal plans in place. Children's individual needs were met as staff knew children well and supported them in a consistent way.

Children were engaged in quality play experiences; they were having fun and there was lots of laughter during our visit. Children were empowered, through quality resources, to lead and extend their own play. Staff were responsive and skilful during interactions to support children to further extend play experiences and interests. Children had opportunities to develop their independence and critical thinking skills and be creative. Children had used loose parts to build an imaginative structure, they worked together to problem solve and make changes and improvements. Staff used nurturing approaches to support children through transitions and to comfort children when needed. This resulted in confident children, who felt safe in their environment and were having fun throughout their play and learning.

Partnership working with families had been well established. Staff recognised the importance of engaging with children and their families at the earliest possible stage. Ongoing opportunities such as the 'eat well, play well' and 'book bug' sessions provided meaningful experiences for families to engage in. This contributed to supporting the holistic needs of each child and their family to improve their wellbeing.

The staff team were motivated and clear about their roles and responsibilities. They were enthusiastic about building their knowledge, skills and expertise. They had established strong working relationships. A positive ethos of mutual trust and respect, promoted a happy, secure and supportive environment for children and their families.

Effective staff deployment across the service meant that children's individual needs were being met by the right number of staff, consistently throughout the day. The staff to child ratio allowed staff to be responsive to individual needs which enhanced children's experiences and ensured children had the right support at the right time. Children who required additional support were well supported by staff to feel respected and included in daily experiences. This was enhanced through effective working relationships with families.

Staff made very good use of professional development opportunities that linked directly to enhanced outcomes for children. Regular team meetings allowed staff to participate in professional discussions and used these to inform practice. This resulted in a staff team who were involved in the improvement journey of the service and worked well together to ensure outcomes for children were of very good quality.

What the service could do better

Children experienced an unhurried and sociable lunch time experience. Older children, as part of their transition to primary one, were going to the dinner hall for their lunch. Staff supported this experience well to ensure children participated in a meaningful lunch experience. However, in the nursery there were missed opportunities for children to develop independence skills through self serving, and we found some staff were task orientated during this time. We suggested that the service review this time to ensure all children participate in a meaningful experience.

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
10 Mar 2020	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
6 Oct 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
5 Sep 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
14 Sep 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
4 Aug 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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