Kirklandpark Primary School Nursery Class
Day Care of Children
Kirklandpark Avenue
Strathaven    ML10 6DY

Inspected by: Irene Melville
(Care Commission Officer)
Type of inspection: Announced
Inspection completed on: 9 May 2005
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<th><strong>Service Number</strong></th>
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<td>Princes Gate</td>
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<td>60 Castle Street</td>
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<td>Hamilton</td>
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Introduction
Kirklandpark Primary School Nursery Class was situated in a quiet residential area in Strathaven. The nursery had a small outdoor play area and shared the school playground at other times. Secure entry systems were in place at the main school entrance and equipment was clean and well maintained. Morning and afternoon sessions were available for up to 20 children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. The nursery was registered with the Care Commission on 1 April 2002.

Basis of Report
This report was written following an announced visit, by one Care Commission Officer, which took place on Monday 09 May 2005.

Before the visit:
- The manager sent a Pre Inspection Return containing some information about the service together with a self-evaluation form.
- Parents returned four questionnaires to the Care Commission, providing their views of the service.

During the visit the Care Commission Officer spoke with:
- The Head Teacher, Depute Head Teacher, Nursery Teacher and Early Years Worker.
- Other staff informally throughout the nursery.
- Five parents.
- Children were spoken with in an informal manner throughout the day.

The Care Commission Officer looked at a range of policies, procedures and records including the following:
- Health and safety policy
- Fire evacuation procedures
- Child protection policy
- Equal opportunities policy
- Behaviour management
- Complaints procedure
- Attendance register
- Action plan
- Accident and incident records.

Observation was carried out on how staff interacted with the children.

The Care Commission Officer took all of the above into account and reported on whether the service was meeting the Regulation of Care (Requirements as to Care Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2002 Statutory Instrument 114 and the following National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:

Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing.
Standard 8: Equality and Fairness.
Standard 11: Access to Resources.
Action taken on requirements in last Inspection Report
There were no requirements resulting from the last inspection of this service.

Comments on Self-Evaluation
The contents of the self evaluation document reflected the service provided and contained realistic areas for development. These were discussed during the inspection.

View of Service Users
Observations were carried out during snack time. Children could explain the routine and spoke of their choice of healthy food options. They also provided staff with their comments and ideas for the farmyard topic.
All of the children spoken with knew the staff by name.

View of Carers
Four out of six parents returned questionnaires to the Care Commission about the nursery. Three of those parents were clear of the centres child protection policies and complaints procedure. A selection of comments from these questionnaires included:
"Staff are very welcoming and encourage a good flow of information between the nursery and parent."
"Regular coffee mornings where parents meet staff informally to share information."
Comments from parents spoken with were similar they found staff welcoming and their children were happy to attend the nursery.
Regulations / Principles

National Care Standards

National Care Standard Number 3: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Health and Wellbeing

Strengths

A key worker system was in place to ensure continuity of care between staff, parents and other relevant service providers involved in the child’s care. Extended family members were also valued and welcomed. Regular coffee mornings provided parents with the opportunity to meet with staff on an informal basis. Good procedures were in place to assist the child during their transition to school.

The staff had a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children from harm, abuse, bullying and neglect. Policy statements and regular reviews support staff in this role.

A health promoting approach to the delivery of the service provided children with opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles, relationships and hygiene. Visitors to the nursery included the Police and School Crossing Person talking about safety and the Community Dental Service, promoting the tooth brushing programme. Children were effectively involved in snack preparation. The child helper counted the children present, then chose and assisted with the preparation and selection of snacks for the day. He then explained to the other children the choice of snacks available. Healthy eating was promoted and special dietary needs were catered for. There were plans for staff to attend Food Hygiene training. The children had access to fresh air, energetic physical play and rest.

South Lanarkshire Council procedures were followed for the administration of medication. Staff had a clear understanding of their role on how to deal with emergencies.

Areas for Development

The child protection policy was not included in the nursery handbook.
The nursery only carried out fire drill the same time as the school.
The children did not frequently access outdoor play as it was only on a weather permitting basis.

National Care Standard Number 8: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Equality and Fairness

Strengths

Policy statements had been developed which respect the individuality of children, parents and staff.

Well developed links with a range of support services and a knowledgeable staff group provided families with support in accessing services.
The service valued parents as partners and took practical steps to reduce barriers which may
prevent parents from attending meetings and communicating with the nursery.

Areas for Development

None identified at this inspection.

National Care Standard Number 11: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Access to Resources

Strengths

There was a varied range of equipment and materials which supported key aspects of children's development and learning. They were effectively organised and freely accessible. Displays were attractively arranged to encourage children's interests and were changed on a regular basis with every topic. A responsive curriculum fostered a positive image of different cultures.

The children had access to a computer and staff were further developing resources for information communication technology. The story corner and sensory equipment provided a quiet, relaxing area for the children.

Visitors to the nursery provided the children with the opportunity to widen their experiences and staff took account of children's ideas. Imaginative use was made of resources in the community many of which were topic related.

Areas for Development

None identified at this inspection.

National Care Standard Number 13: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Improving the Service

Strengths

Planning meetings, and a review process, provided staff with the opportunity to evaluate the service. The Depute Head Teacher meets regularly with the Nursery Teacher to discuss the ongoing development and daily work of the nursery.

Children were consulted and involved in decision making on a daily basis through the use of choice in various aspects of the nursery routine. Parents received an annual questionnaire regarding their views of the service.

Nursery action plans were regularly updated and assessed. Staff development provided the opportunity to review performance and to identify areas for development and training throughout the year.

Areas for Development
Lack of training courses available to the Early Years Worker.
**Enforcement**
There has been no enforcement action taken against this service by the Care Commission.

**Other Information**
Five recommendations were made during the previous inspection visit. Good progress had been made and staff continue to work to the action plan which had been produced to address all of the recommendations.

The majority of the radiators in the nursery have safety guards fitted. However there still remains one in the nursery and one in the toilet area unguarded.

Times should be added to the daily register, to reflect a true pattern of attendance.

**Requirements**
None were identified at this inspection.

**Recommendations**
1. The child protection policy should be included in the nursery handbook. (Standard 3.2.)
2. The nursery should aim to carry out monthly fire drill. (Standard 3.7.)
3. Staff should work towards providing children with the opportunity for regular outdoor play. (Standard 3.5.)
4. Staff training opportunities should be available to all staff. (Standard 13.1.)
5. Staff should ensure the surface temperature of the radiators will never endanger a child. (Standard 2.1.)
6. The daily register should state the times of attendance. (Standard 14.2.)

**Irene Melville**
Care Commission Officer