

Carnwath Primary School Nursery Class Day Care of Children

White Crow Court
Carnwath
Lanark
ML11 8GZ

Telephone: 01555 840263

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

13 November 2019

Service provided by:

South Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003003481

Service no:

CS2003015280

About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

The service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Carnwath Primary School Nursery Class is registered to provide an early learning and childcare service to a maximum of 34 children aged from three years to those not attending primary school.

The service is based within Carnwath Primary School and operates during the school term time. The outdoor area is accessible directly from the playroom. The service also have access to the school gym hall, dining hall and other facilities within the school premises, indoors and outdoors.

The provider of the service is South Lanarkshire Council.

The service aims include:

'to create an ethos that promotes an inclusive environment and encourages children to reach their full potential through opportunities and challenge.'

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure that 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 (GIRFEC), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes for children, by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parents to work with services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

We saw that the children were happy, having fun and engaged in varied play and learning experiences, both indoors and outdoors. The majority of children were confident and keen to interact with us over the course of the inspection. Some children's comments included:

- 'Look what I made! Helicopter.' (construction materials)
- 'I can lift this. It's not heavy.' (sand play)
- 'This is for snack. I'm helping. Look I can cut it.' (chopping apples)
- 'The ice is away now. It's not slippy to play.' (outdoors)

We sent 10 care standards questionnaires to the manager to distribute to parents/carers of children who experienced care at the service. Six questionnaires were returned before the inspection. We also spoke to five parents/carers as they collected their children.

Parental comments included:

'My child absolutely loves their nursery. Teachers are outstanding, cannot do enough, always there if you need them etc. Cannot praise the team leader and her team enough for how well the nursery runs.'

'Carnwath Nursery is a nurturing environment where my child loves to go. They are always happy and content. The staff are always so lovely and welcoming.'

'My child started this term. It's been great. There is settling in to suit the individual child and a 'stay and play' session once they were settled which lets you see what they do. It's a very welcoming nursery. The staff are all friendly, approachable and great with the kids. My child loves it and is so tired by the time they get home because they have been so busy having fun. I love the app, which keeps us up to date with everything that's happening at nursery.'

'Staff are so good with my child. They can have free flow play outdoors which really suits my child. They work with the parents and I don't feel anything is said negatively. They always take the positives and we talk about things we can work on together. I am more than happy here.'

'My child absolutely loves nursery class. To them it is fun, but I know they are developing a sense of their own abilities, encouraging my child to feel good about themselves. This was more noticeable when the free play ideas were introduced. They can go outside when they choose within the nursery's daily plan. Having a named key person is good for both them and us. We have a person to go to and I feel we are involved in their learning and setting goals which can be reinforced at home. I feel my child is allowed to develop in their own way and in their own time, being encouraged to explore, listen and talk. I am glad my children attends Carnwath Nursery. The staff are kind, sensitive and understanding. Just fabulous.'

Self assessment

The service has not been asked to submit a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed their improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

We saw that children were happy, having fun and were fully engaged in play experiences both indoors and outdoors throughout the inspection. They were supported by a kind, caring and professional staff team who demonstrated that they knew the needs of individual children very well. Children could make choices of where to play and what to play with and were included in making decisions and risk assessing areas and activities for their own and others safety during the session. This gave children responsibilities and created a positive, nurturing, learning environment for children.

Staff were responsive to children's needs and requests. Activities were generally child-led and supported active play and learning. Children's social and physical skills, confidence, self-esteem and creativity were developing through a balance of organised and freely chosen extended play, including using open-ended and natural materials. This was observed working particularly well during free flow play indoors and outdoors and block play.

Personal plans were in place for all children. These detailed all required information and identified each child's next steps in learning and development, as discussed and agreed with parents and children. The service had introduced the local authority's documentation 'Together we can, and we will' to record children's learning and development and to track their progress. Systems were in place to access input from external agencies to assist children who had additional support needs. This contributed towards meeting the needs of all children.

Children's learning journals were accessible to the children and their parents at all times. When sampling these, a few children were keen to share their own learning journal with us. They confidently told us what they had been learning about and proudly highlighted their achievements. This empowered children and fully involved them in decisions about their care, support and learning.

We saw that children could choose from suitably presented, healthy meals and snacks and had access to fresh drinking water throughout the day. Menus and choices had been adapted in response to children's dietary needs and preferences. Children assisted in preparing and setting up snack within the playroom, independently serving themselves and clearing away their own dishes. Lunchtime procedures were continually monitored to ensure this was also a relaxed, sociable experience for all children, where children's independence was encouraged.

Management and staff were knowledgeable about their roles and responsibilities in child protection. Staff explained how annual training, access to online training and regular input at induction and staff meetings, supported all staff in keeping their knowledge up-to-date and ensured children's health, safety and wellbeing was a priority. We sent further information to the manager to support the service with records they must keep and required notifications which must be made to the Care Inspectorate.

Management and staff were experienced, enthusiastic and committed in ensuring positive outcomes for children. There had been several changes within the setting since the last inspection. This included the introduction of lunches for all children, extended session times, free flow play indoors and outdoors and some changes within the staff team. The management and staff team had embraced these changes and had ensured improvement plans, self-evaluation and monitoring systems were in place to assist with the provision of a high quality service.

What the service could do better

One child's medication and resources were stored on an open shelf within a locked cupboard. This was not in line with current guidance. We acknowledged that information regarding the administration of any required medication was shared with parents/carers verbally. However, the forms did not have a section for parents to sign to acknowledge their child had received medication as requested. These were generic forms provided by the local authority. Improved documentation would assist with children's health and safety and record keeping within the service (See recommendation 1).

The main door to the children's toilets was wedged open throughout the session. This had the potential to spread germs and was not in line with current infection prevention and control guidance. We recommended that this door should be risk assessed and actions taken to ensure the door is closed throughout the session (See recommendation 2).

We advised the management team to monitor and evaluate whole group story times, assessing the value and outcomes for all children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. The manager should review and update the storage of children's medication to ensure it is stored in line with current good practice guidance 'Management of medication in daycare of children and childminding services.'

Administration of medication forms should have a column added for a parental signature. This is for parents to confirm that their child has received their medication, when required. This would contribute to children's health, safety and wellbeing and improve record keeping within the service.

This is in order to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state, I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice. (HSCS 4.11)

2. The manager should risk assess the main door to the children's toilets to ensure this door can be opened and closed safely by children throughout the session. This door should be closed over at all times the service is in operation. This would improve the infection prevention and control practices within the service and contribute towards children's health and safety.

Further information can be found within documents:

'Space to Grow' and 'Infection prevention and control in childcare settings (day care and childminding settings).'

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state, I can independently access the parts of the premises I use and the environment has been designed to promote this (HSCS 5.11) and I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice. (HSCS 4.11)

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
28 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
17 Feb 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
7 Sep 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 3 - Adequate
10 Feb 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

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