

Giffnock Nursery Class Day Care of Children

Giffnock Primary School
Academy Road
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Glasgow
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Telephone: 0141 570 7180

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 27 January 2017

Service provided by:
East Renfrewshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003372

Care service number:
CS2003015832

About the service

Giffnock Nursery Class is a daycare of children service that operates from a classroom located within Giffnock Primary School. The service currently offers two sessions; a morning session from 8.50am until midday, and an afternoon session from 12.50 until 4pm. As East Renfrewshire aim to provide flexible childcare, additional hours may be available upon request.

The service is close to local amenities, including a bus route.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011. Current registration enables staff to care for a maximum of 30 children aged three years and over but not yet attending primary school.

The service aims and objectives include providing "a safe and secure environment and actively work to develop a partnership between home and nursery".

What people told us

During the course of the inspection we observed the interaction between the staff team and the children. Children were observed to be happy and confident which led us to conclude that they felt safe and secure. Staff were kind and caring, offering plenty of affection to children who were looking for this, and equally, offering stimulation and challenge to others.

We sent ten questionnaires to the service to be distributed to parents and carers. We received eight of these back prior to the inspection visit. The collated responses confirmed that all parents and carers were happy with the quality of care that their child received at the service. Examples of positive comments included:

"Our experience of Giffnock Nursery has been exceptionally positive. The staff are friendly and professional at all times. We feel they know our child very well and meet his needs to the highest standard. Personal learning is evident and choice for our young people is varied with outdoor learning a feature, which the children really enjoy. I would have no hesitation in recommending Giffnock Nursery. It has been a fantastic first step in the Education ladder"

"The care and education my daughter received at Giffnock Nursery Class was outstanding. There was always a wide range of activities on offer and the staff regularly took the kids on forest walks and trips and there was plenty of outdoor play. My daughter's writing comprehension was super by the time she left. Most importantly, she loved the staff and there were always kind and caring"

"I am delighted with the care my son has received this year at Giffnock Nursery. All of the staff are fantastic and very caring towards the children. The teachers have taken time to get to know all the children individually. There are many different activities for the children to participate in daily. Their imaginations are constantly stimulated. Wonderful staff..."

"Very good nursery. Helpful and pleasant staff who encourage parental involvement"

"The nursery is very good at informing parents about different aspects of nursery life through different media, be it the notice board, a book for parents to read regarding local amenities, parks or day out ideas and their Twitter site. The staff are always available to chat to regarding any queries you may have and it generally seems a happy place for both the children and staff".

Another parent told us that all of the staff provided "a welcoming, secure and fun environment" for their child. This parent went on to state, "As a working parent, I am not always able to attend events at nursery but still feel involved with the introduction of nursery newsletters, with an update on past term and the introduction of twitter has been a bonus. I was able to attend the recent garden party and a tremendous effort was made by teaching and support staff to provide afternoon tea. It was lovely to see my nursery child interacting with P1 children. My daughter loves nursery and for me that says it all".

One parent told us, "I have been extremely happy with most aspects of this nursery, in particular the staff. My only negative comment is I am surprised how often my son seems to have a biscuit for his snack rather than a healthier alternative. Only a minor criticism". We discussed this comment with staff who confirmed that children do receive crackers and rice cakes, in line with the best practice document, "Setting the Table". Children only receive a biscuit when they have been on a forest adventure to boost their energy levels as they are doing a lot of physical energy during this activity.

Self assessment

We received a fully completed self-assessment document from the service.

This document detailed the service's strengths and areas for improvements and many of these evaluations were supported by parental responses. Our findings were not always completely in line with the grades documented for the aspects of the service that we looked at. For grades of "excellent" we would need more evidence to demonstrate sector leading practice that could be disseminated beyond the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

Skilled and experienced staff provided a high quality service to children and their families. Each child was allocated a keyworker, who worked closely with them and their family to gather important information that enabled them to support each child, as an individual. Within this service, this included the opportunity of a home visit, which parents commented on favourably. The keyworker system supported secure attachments and we observed many happy, confident children who were successful learners and effective contributors.

Staff told us that they analysed and assessed daily observations through effective communication with their peers. This helped them to identify each child's preferred style of learning, their stage of development and their likes and interests. This enabled staff to plan effectively for children's learning and development, bringing any concerns to management's attention timeously. Where concerns were identified, support mechanisms were put in place at the earliest possible stage to enhance the outcomes for these children. For some, this meant that additional support plans were put in place, either with, or without, additional partnership working with external agencies. Staff recognised the importance of working in partnership with parents and carers to achieve the best outcomes for children, not just in terms of their learning and development, but also their wellbeing.

"Getting it right for every child", the national approach promoted by the Scottish Government for everyone to work together to support good outcomes for children, was embedded in staff's practice. They had a good knowledge of the wellbeing indicators needed for children to flourish and promoted them well with the children and their parents and carers. These indicators include; safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, responsible, respected and included.

There were daily opportunities for children to go outdoors, and the range of areas used, provided them with different experiences. Observations confirmed that children were learning to become independent as they put on their outdoor clothing. They learned about rules and boundaries to keep them safe and had to negotiate different gradients as they moved between areas. There were opportunities for children; to be active, to explore, to experiment, negotiate and investigate, while learning about the changing seasons and the effect that this has on nature.

What the service could do better

The outdoor areas should continue to be assessed and developed to further promote creativity, imagination, literacy and numeracy as well as physical, social, cognitive and emotional strength and skills. To make the outdoor experience more pleasant for children, consideration should also be given to keeping a supply of gloves for children to use in colder months.

The procedures being implemented at the time of the inspection visit, relating to medication, were not fully in line with best practice. An electronic copy of the best practice guidance, "Management of medication in daycare of children and childminding services" was forwarded and a commitment was given to review the procedures, in line with this document.

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.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
25 Nov 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
27 Oct 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent Not assessed 4 - Good Not assessed
30 Jun 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 3 - Adequate 4 - Good

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