

Keiss Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Keiss Primary School
High Street
Keiss
Wick
KW1 4XB

Telephone: 01955 631269

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
3 September 2019

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Service no:
CS2003017221

About the service

This service has been registered since 2002.

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). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

Keiss Primary School Nursery is located within a pre-fabricated building in the grounds of Keiss Primary School. Accommodation consists of an entrance vestibule and main activity room with kitchen area and storage room. Toilets are adjacent to the entrance vestibule. The nursery uses the school playground for many outdoor activities and the school gym for physical activities. There is also an attractive nursery garden with a range of play equipment and room for planting and growing.

What people told us

All the children present during the session were observed as being very happy and relaxed in the care of the staff. There was a very good rapport between the children and staff which allowed for natural and open communication. The children enthusiastically told us about the different things they enjoyed doing at nursery. On the day of the inspection, all the children particularly enjoyed spending time outdoors taking part in a range of fun and challenging activities.

During the inspection we spoke with three parents and carers, and three parents and carers gave us feedback through our questionnaires. They were all very positive in their comments about the quality of the service provided.

Comments made included:

'It is a brilliant nursery.'

'The staff are both very good.'

'It is great that the staff are able to spend individual time with the children.'

'There is a friendly, relaxed ethos at Keiss Nursery.'

'The caring, supportive environment allows pupils to grow and flourish at their own pace.'

'It is really positive that they are out so much.'

'See-saw is great. It is fantastic to get to see the photographs of the children taking part in activities on the same day.'

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan and quality assurance systems. These demonstrated the service priorities for development, detailing how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service, and a clear schedule for improvements.

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

During this inspection, we focussed on how the service encouraged children to develop a healthy lifestyle. Connected to this we looked at the outdoor facilities, opportunities for outdoor play and learning, and promoting risk in play. We found that the service was performing to a very good standard.

From our observations, it was evident that staff had established very good relationships with the families and knew the individual needs of each of the children attending. Staff were very caring and nurturing in their approach. They were very enthusiastic and committed to providing a service of a high standard. The parents and carers we spoke with during the inspection were very complimentary in their comments about the staff, their approachability and professionalism. They were particularly positive about the information staff shared with them on the 'see-saw' app.

Encouraging the children to develop a healthy lifestyle was a priority in the nursery. The children learned about how healthy food is good for them, looking after their bodies and their teeth, taking part in physical exercise and energetic play, and keeping themselves and others safe.

During the inspection visit, we observed a very sociable snack. All the children and the staff sat together and chatted and talked about what they had been doing and what they would like to do after snack. The snack helpers enjoyed the responsibilities of their role and enjoyed being involved in snack preparation.

The manager and staff recognised the importance of risk and challenge in children's outdoor play. As a consequence, the children were being offered the opportunity to take part in activities which involved challenge, learning about risk and taking responsibility for their own safety and that of others. The children were encouraged to be fully involved in risk assessment activities.

The nursery opened directly onto an enclosed outdoor area which was extremely popular with all the children and the staff. The parents we spoke with were very pleased that the children spent so much time outdoors both in the outdoor area and in the wider local community.

Following the previous inspection, a recommendation had been made in relation to increasing the resources available outside. This recommendation had been fully met. The area contained a very good range of resources, including a wide selection of loose parts and open ended resources, which encouraged the children's imaginative

play and learning. There were opportunities to take part in planting activities, investigative play, numeracy and literacy, a mud kitchen and various physical activities. During the inspection, the children were all fully engaged in a range of activities either independently or in groups. Water play and imaginative play involving boats, bubbles and shepherd's crooks were particularly popular.

What the service could do better

During the inspection, we looked at the personal plans in place for the children attending. We reminded the staff of the need to regularly review, and where appropriate update, personal plans and to include parents and carers in this process.

The service should continue to routinely review and update their policies and procedures to reflect current best practice.

We discussed with the staff the range of snacks available to the children especially as some children attended for full days. We also discussed how they could extend the experience to encourage the children to develop their independence skills and replace plastic cups and plates with ordinary crockery.

We discussed with staff how they could continue to increase the range of loose parts and natural resources within the playroom.

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

Recommendation 1

The nursery should continue to build on resources outside which help to stimulate children's imaginations and provide opportunities for challenge and cooperation.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare Up to the Age of 16 - Standard 11: Access to Resources

This recommendation was made on 10 November 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation had been fully met.

During the inspection we were able to see the wide range of resources available to the children outdoors. These included natural resources, loose parts and open ended resources.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
4 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
5 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
19 Mar 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
29 Oct 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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