All health and social care services in Scotland have a duty of candour. This is a legal requirement which means that when things go wrong and mistakes happen, the people affected understand what has happened, receive an apology, and that organisations learn how to improve for the future.

An important part of this duty is that we provide an annual report about the duty of candour in our services. This short report describes how Corsehill Primary Early Years Class has operated the duty of candour during the time between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. We hope you find this report useful.

**1. About Corsehill Primary Early Years Class**

Corsehill Early Years Class operates within the associated Primary School.  The class provides a learning experience for children aged two to five. Early Years Class provides of a variety of activities and experiences designed to aid in the cognitive and social learning and development of children before they enter primary school.

**2. How many incidents happened to which the duty of candour applies?**

In the last year, there has been no incident to which the duty of candour applied. These are where types of incident have happened which are unintended or unexpected, and do not relate directly to the natural course of someone’s illness or underlying condition.

**Type of unexpected or unintended incident**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of unexpected or unintended incident | Number of times this happened |
| Someone has died | 0 |
| Someone has permanently less bodily, sensory, motor, physiologic or intellectual functions | 0 |
| Someone’s treatment has increased because of harm | 0 |
| Someone’s life expectancy becomes shorter because of harm | 0 |
| Someone’s sensory, motor or intellectual functions is impaired for 28 days or more | 0 |
| Someone experienced pain or physiological harm for 28 days or more | 0 |
| A person needed health treatment in order to prevent them dying | 0 |
| A person needing health treatment in order to prevent other injuries | 0 |

**3. To what extent do Corsehill Early Years Class follow the duty of candour procedure?**

If an incident arises to which duty of candour applies, Corsehill Early Years will follow the correct procedures. This would be informing parents affected, apologising and offering to meet with them. Further steps would be reviewing any incident with staff and families involved, what went wrong and implementing any change to prevent future incidents.

**4. Information about our policies and procedures**

Where something has happened that triggers the duty of candour, our staff report this to the Head Teacher, who has responsibility for ensuring that the duty of candour procedure is followed. The HT records the incident and reports as necessary to the Senior Manager, North Ayrshire Council’s Health and Safety Officer and The Care Inspectorate. When an incident has happened, the HT and staff will set up a learning review. This allows everyone involved to review what happened and identifies changes for the future.

All new staff learn about the duty of candour at their induction. We know that serious mistakes can be distressing for staff as well as people who use care and their families. We have occupational support in place through North Ayrshire Council for our staff if they have been affected by a duty of candour incident.

Where parents or children are affected by the duty of candour, we have arrangements in place to provide welfare support as necessary.

**5. What has changed as a result?**

No duty of candours have been required.

**6. Other information**

This is the first year of the duty of candour being in operation and it has been a learning experience for our Early Years Class. It has helped us to remember that people who use care have the right to know when things go badly, as well as when they go well.

As required, we have submitted this report to the Care Inspectorate but we have also placed it on our website a paper copy is available for our families too.

If you would like more information about our Corsehill Early Years Class please contact us using these details:

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