

Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral Primary School Nursery Class Day Care of Children

Milton Street
Motherwell
ML1 1DL

Telephone: 01698 274935

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

28 November 2018

Service provided by:

North Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003000237

Service no:

CS2011289436

About the service

Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral Primary School Nursery Class registered with the Care Inspectorate in October 2011. It is registered to provide care to a maximum of 50 children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. The provider is North Lanarkshire Council.

The service is located in a residential area of Motherwell in North Lanarkshire. The nursery is accommodated within the purpose built joint school campus of Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral Primary School and Firpark Primary School.

Aims of the service include, providing a safe, stimulating and caring environment for children, encouraging children to develop their confidence and self-esteem and to provide opportunities for children to express themselves through art and craft, imaginative play and music.

All areas of the nursery were in operation during our inspection. We found that 40 children were using the service on the first morning we inspected, and 36 children attended the afternoon session. Feedback was given to the service the following day.

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. GIRFEC 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 GIRFEC. 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.

What people told us

For this inspection we received written views from twelve parents and carers who used the service. We also spoke with eight parents and grandparents during the inspection.

All parents and carers said that they were extremely happy with the care that their children received at the service. People spoke highly of the opportunities that they were given to participate in experiences with their children at nursery. Parents also highlighted the 'exceptionally good' staff and person centre approach, that was used to meet children's needs.

We observed children at play and they were very happy within the nursery environment. Children were highly motivated to play and learn. Some children told us about their time at nursery. They commented that they liked the garden, the teachers and the music area.

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 paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	6 - Excellent
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children were settled, happy, supported and loved by a staff and management team who were highly committed to getting it right for every child attending the service.

The nursery environment was calm, welcoming and inclusive. Families were greeted warmly by staff who showed a genuine interest in children's wellbeing. The welcoming cloakroom displayed children's interpretations of the staff in painted portraits. This highlighted that the nursery was the children's, emphasising their feeling of belonging as soon as families entered the building.

Children experienced warmth, kindness and compassion. They were shown love and affection by staff who offered cuddles and comfort throughout the nursery session. Staff were responsive to the needs of children and intervened when necessary, to offer children additional comfort when needed. Children were further supported through enrichment time which staff used to work with children requiring additional support on a one to one basis.

Staff knew children and their families exceptionally well. Parents were invited to participate in lots of events at nursery. For example, forest visits and stay and play sessions. There was also an opportunity for parents and carers to chat to staff at drop off and collection times. This strengthened relationships, and as a result parents felt comfortable to discuss children's needs with staff.

Staff used information gained from parents and carers to create personal plans for children that were right for them. Children's plans set out how their needs would be met, and included the wishes of parents and children. We found that children were progressing their health, wellbeing, safety and learning as a result of excellent planning to meet their needs.

A very effective buddy system supported new children to feel included. Children were allocated an older nursery child to support them during their initial few weeks at nursery. We saw that buddies were working hard to support their peers, helping to build their confidence. Primary six pupils also visited the nursery every Tuesday as part of a buddy programme. The nursery children were responsive to the older children and enthusiastically included them in their play.

The pace of the session provided plenty of time for children to develop their learning through high quality play experiences.

Children accessed a wide variety of experiences and resources suitable to their age and stage. There was a lovely mixture of old and new equipment which stimulated children's curiosity and imagination. For example, in the expressive music area, children accessed an old radio cassette player and old style camera alongside modern microphones and a variety of instruments. Children were very creative within their play, using their imaginations to develop their own ideas, express themselves and have lots of fun.

Children had access to a variety of play spaces that enhanced their quality of experiences. For example they played in the garden, trim trail, pitch, soft play area and went for walks around the extensive school grounds. Children were having great fun in the garden as they played in dens, climbed rocks and explored 'dino land'. Resources had been chosen for the garden to allow children to take some positive risks within play. For example, climbing equipment and rocks. This enhanced children's quality of experiences and encouraged them to try new things, building their resilience.

The nursery had participated in and won a number of awards that highlighted the sector leading experiences being provided to children. For example an ICT award and Scotland's Finest Woods Award. The service had also been appointed to share their excellent forest schools practice with others in the authority as part of a training programme.

What the service could do better

The service agreed to consider the use of loose parts equipment, to enrich the construction area for children, providing them with greater opportunities for problem solving.

The service should continue evaluating the quality of provision to maintain and develop high quality care for children.

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	
17 Dec 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent
28 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent

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