

St. Brendans Primary School Nursery Class Day Care of Children

45 Barons Road
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Telephone: 01698 274914

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
16 January 2019

Service provided by:
North Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003000237

Service no:
CS2009229585

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 the registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

North Lanarkshire Council is the provider of this day care for children service. The service is provided from within St. Brendans Primary School and is registered to provide care to 60 children aged from two to not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 20 are under three years. The service has designated play rooms for the children aged two to three years to those not yet attending primary school. Each age group had a dedicated outdoor space. The service has a secure entrance.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) 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, also known as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

At the time of the inspection 63 children were registered to receive childcare of which six were under three years of age.

What people told us

We gathered the views of 13 families using the service. They all provided very positive feedback on their experiences of the service and told us their children really enjoyed attending. They were very positive about the quality of the staffing and were very appreciative of the support and guidance they had received. One parent told us the staff were always 'on the ball'. Staff worked in partnership with them to ensure their children's needs were met. The parents/carers told us that they were kept informed of children's progress and staff were always available to talk to them. They told us they found the premises to be safe, secure, well maintained and resourced. All those we spoke to were very happy with the service their child received.

We spoke to, and observed the children over the two day visit. The children were confident, happy and content. We observed children to be engaged in their play, having fun and playing with their friends and the staff. The children we talked to told us they really liked coming to nursery. They said they liked all the art and craft activities. They explained they can choose what they want to play, including to play outside. They told us the staff were nice, they gave cuddles when they needed cheered up or reassured, one child said 'they fix things'. We concluded the children felt safe and secure within the service and had formed positive relationships with the other children and staff.

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	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We found the two to three playroom to be more established since the last inspection. The children were very settled, relaxed and confident within the playroom and we could see the positive relationships between the staff and children. The staff were experienced in working with this age group. They knew the children very well and were working closely with families and other professionals to ensure they supported children's wellbeing needs. The staff had introduced home link bags to support children's learning experiences between home and nursery.

The staff working with the children three years and over had continued to maintain the high quality care and support provided since the last inspection. To further enhance children's experiences they had made changes to the planning to be more child led/inspired. Experiences and learning were planned in response to children's needs and interests. By recording more detail of children's learning they were able to monitor their progress more effectively. We found the children in this age group to be confident and engaged in their play.

We found each child had an all about me and personal plan in place that outlined their needs and how the service planned to support these. The children's learning journals showed how staff support/challenged children and closely monitored their progress.

The service had work in partnership with families and other professionals to meet children's wellbeing needs. They had introduced a wellbeing calendar of events to promote the wellbeing needs. For example, cooking and fun physical activities to promote healthy lifestyles for families.

We observed children to be learning and developing their own life skills during snack time, putting on coats and shoes and brushing their teeth. Children were making good progress, we did ask staff to be more vigilant supervising tooth brushing to ensure children are following good brushing guidance.

The service had continued to use the joint learning events to promote children's transition to primary school. Staff told us they had found these very effective and these were having a positive impact on children settling into primary one.

We were satisfied with the service policies and procedures to ensure the safe guarding of children. This included staff training and experience of child protection and safety measure for example, if a child has an unexplained absence. We have asked the service to relocate the child protection display to ensure it can be seen.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found the service to have a safe and secure entrance which lead into a cloakroom area where children can hang up coats and change into soft shoes. On arrival, children and families were welcomed into their designated playrooms to sign in and talk to staff.

The two to three room was spacious and well laid out, providing children with a variety of play areas. This included small, cosy areas with soft furnishing and places to hide and more messy areas where children can be expressive and creative with paint, water and sand. Staff were reflective of the play areas and were continually enhancing these to meet children needs for example, at present had plans to introduce more cause and effect toys as children were showing a keen interest and were ready for the challenge. This playroom had direct access to a small, but well organised outdoor space. We observed children to be well wrapped up and having lots of fun. We saw lots of smiles and laughter.

The older play room was well resourced and laid out providing a range of learning experiences. We observed children to be moving freely between these, self selecting where and what they wanted to play. Resources were clearly labelled and children knew where to source their preferred toys and were confident, for example when using technology such as tablets. We observed children to be playing in small groups for example at the writing table, story corner and construction area. Children were engaged in their play and staff were on hand to support and play with children when needed or requested. The staff had been developing play experiences to enhance children's early literacy and numeracy skills and ensuring they created an environment to support their emotional and wellbeing needs.

We did identify some areas in relation to the environment which, we would like the service to consider, to enhance children experiences. For example, access to hand drying materials and soap at all the children's sinks, the water temperature at hand washing sinks, the noise coming from the heater in youngest children's toilets and the location of the changing area at the entrance to the older children's toilets. The manager agreed to look into these.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Nine staff were employed to worked in the service. One manager and eight early years practitioners to support the children on a daily basis. Seven of the early practitioners were present during the inspection. All staff were appropriately registered with a professional body, either the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) or General Teaching Council (GTC). We observed and talked to the staff over the two days

We found staff to be welcoming and well engaged in the inspection process. Staff were keen to share their experiences and talk to the inspector about the service they provided, improvements made since the last inspection and future plans. Staff presented as being well informed about good practice guidance, child development and having a very good understanding of the children and families using the service.

Staff were well informed and kept their skills and knowledge up to date through attending training, in-service days and professional reading. Recently the staff team had undertaken training in Solihull, mental health and video, enhance, reflective, practice (VERP). These were all to support staff enhance their practice, interactions and relationships. Staff spoke very positively about these and were keen to continue to use such techniques to enhance their skills. The staff working with the younger children did say they would like to undertake more training for working with children aged two years old to further enhance their skills.

Staff worked well together and were a strong team. They meet regularly to share and discuss the service being provided to ensure they were working in partnership to get it right for the children and families using the service. This well established team had worked together for a period of time providing continuity of care and stability.

The staff team were respectful and caring towards the children and families. They provide a warm welcome at the start and end of each session. They provided comfort and reassurance if needed. Staff were skilled at identifying and responding to the needs of the children. As a result we found children to be happy, confident and secure.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We found the service placed a strong ethos of meeting the wellbeing needs of the children and families. The service promoted an ethos of respect and valued the views of the staff, children, families and other stakeholders.

The service had effective systems in place to welcome new families. Children's induction and settling in visits were planned around the children's needs. The service worked in partnership with families and other professionals to ensure they take action and, when needed, to access additional support services.

The continuity within the staff team provided stability for those using the service, but also supported the service to further enhance the service they provide. The staff were growing in confidence and becoming more involved in the service self evaluation and improvement plan every year. The service demonstrated their commitment to continuous improvement and wanting to provide the best service for the children and families.

To support those involved in the service, various meetings and events were planned. This allowed everyone to share their views, feel valued and work together to get it right for the children.

We were confident the service was being well managed and that there was a shared leadership throughout the service. All staff shared the responsibility in planning the right care and support, to meet the children's needs. As a result, the service was providing high quality care and support.

We reviewed the service management of medication policy and procedures. We found most of which, was being followed meeting standards. We did identify on one occasion where procedures were not followed. This resulted in the service having written consent to administer a medication that the service had clearly stated they would not be able to administer, however, they were still storing the medication. At the time of inspection, the medication date of expiry had past. We have raised this with the staff and management and made a recommendation that they implement more thorough audits and checks around medication. This is to ensure they only have consent and store medication they have agreed to administer. (see recommendation one)

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. The service should complete regular checks and audits of all medications stored including consent to give forms. This is to ensure they only store medication they have agreed and have consent to administer. All medication should be in date and returned to parent, if expired or disposed of following good practice guidance.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which states as a child, I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice and I use a service that is well led and managed (HSCS 4.11 & 4.23).

Grade: 5 - very good

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

Requirement 1

The provider must ensure that when the cooker hobs within playrooms are being used, that they are always supervised by staff and never left unattended.

This is in order to comply The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland(Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210) - regulations 4(1)(a).

Timescale for completion: 10 November 2017.

This requirement was made on 8 January 2018.

Action taken on previous requirement

The service had up dated the risk assessment and safety measures followed when the cooker and hobs were in use. This included staff must supervise this equipment at all times when on. We talked to staff about this and they all told us that when using the cooker/hob they supervise at all times. This area of requirement had been addressed.

Met - within timescales

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

The provider should ensure staff have access to training to enhance their environmental awareness which could include:

- Health and Safety
- Risk Assessment

NCS 2: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A safe environment

This recommendation was made on 8 January 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

All staff had attended training in food handling and completed an online health and safety course. They had also been involved in the review and implementation of the new risk assessment, that included supervising the use of higher risk equipment at all times such as cooker/hob. This area of recommendation had been addressed.

Recommendation 2

Risk assessments and procedures relating to the use of cooker hobs within the playrooms should be reviewed so that the risk of harm to children is minimised.

NCS 2: Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - A safe environment

This recommendation was made on 8 January 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

the risk assessment and procedures for using the cooker/hob and been reviewed and updated to included improved safety measure to reduce the risk of harm to children or staff. This area of recommendation had been addressed.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
6 Oct 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership Not assessed
30 Jun 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
11 Sep 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
30 Mar 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 2 - Weak Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 2 - Weak
31 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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