

# Barassie Primary School Nursery Class Day Care of Children

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Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 17 January 2017

**Service provided by:**  
South Ayrshire Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003003269

**Care service number:**  
CS2003016132

## About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information in relation to all care services is available on our website at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

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.

Barassie Primary School Nursery Class is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of fifty children from three years upwards to those who are not yet attending primary school. The service offers morning and afternoon sessions from Monday to Friday, during school term. The nursery is located within Barassie Primary School. South Ayrshire Council provides the service, the Headteacher of the school manages the nursery. The children have access to a secure outdoor area.

The Nursery Vision had neatly been captured in acrostic poetry;

**B**e all you can be  
**A**chieving and attaining high standards  
**R**espectful and resilient  
**A**ctive and enjoying a healthy lifestyle  
**S**afe and happy  
**S**upporting and nurturing  
**I**nclusive  
**E**nterprising, Eco-friendly and aiming for excellence

## What people told us

We received fourteen completed Care Standard Questionnaires during the inspection. Almost all respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care provided. Two respondents raised specific issues, which we shared anonymously with the headteacher at the inspection visit.

Some of the comments within the responses included:

'Starting out at the beginning of term my child was very shy with teachers and other children. His teacher has done an amazing job of bringing on my child's confidence and every day I see my child getting more involved with other children and games they are playing. Barassie is a lovely nursery and I am very happy with the care my child is getting.'

'I really feel this year is especially important as it shapes and moulds your child before going to school, I really feel confident my child is getting all that they require to meet this. I really feel the nursery have brought my child on this year. The staff were very supportive and couldn't do enough to make my child's day to day life special.'

'Overall I am extremely happy with the care of my child. All the staff are really lovely and friendly.'

'My child loves going to the nursery each day. I can leave them there knowing they are happy and well looked after. All staff at Barassie Nursery are very professional and caring. I know that I can speak to them about anything; they are very approachable and understanding. My child has made huge progress since starting at Barassie and is a very happy and confident child.'

'I could not ask for a more caring, friendly or fun environment for my child. The staff are knowledgeable, caring and highly skilled. I have every confidence that my child has endless fun and learning opportunities. I give Barassie Nursery the highest of recommendations.'

## Self assessment

The care inspectorate received a fully completed self assessment from the Nursery. The service identified what it thought it did well and gave examples of improvements made. The self assessment identified some key areas that the nursery believed needed improved and showed how the service intended to do this.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

<b>Quality of care and support</b>	6 - Excellent
<b>Quality of environment</b>	not assessed
<b>Quality of staffing</b>	6 - Excellent
<b>Quality of management and leadership</b>	not assessed

## What the service does well

Staff have successfully established an inclusive learning environment. We observed children, parents and partner agencies being welcomed and included into the nursery. Comprehensive parent participation questionnaires had been established with outcomes linked to newsletter information. The nursery would benefit from dates being consistently included on all paperwork

Communication between staff and management, parents and children was highly effective. We observed communication and involvement strategies that were excellent practice. Parents views had been actively sought, well considered and the end products showed evidence of this.

The nursery had effective personal plans, we suggested these could be enhanced further by linking the information gathered to the planning cycle. It was clear that parents and children had been actively involved in reviewing and personalising the personal plans. Children's learning was highly effectively tracked to show progression, breadth and depth.

Children and their families had access to a nurturing approach, from staff who clearly understood nurturing principles and effectively delivered these.

Parents and partner agencies were actively engaged, when necessary, by the Nursery in order to ensure all children benefited from the right support at the right time. We saw ample evidence that a clear picture of each child was being built. The nursery put children's and their family's wellbeing at the heart of all they did. We observed some excellent examples of this in practice. Staff spoke to children with respect, at child level and showed keen interest in the child's views and opinions. Children were respectful of each other. We felt this practice was excellent.

Staff knew children and their families very well. Children are involved in evaluating their play experiences. Children were able and encouraged to be independent in their choices and decision making. The staff told us about the risk benefit approach they are establishing, this should continue to be considered.

The Nursery had established excellent approaches to child protection and safeguarding was an integral part of the self assessment processes. We saw that chronologies had been established and that children, and their families, were clearly being very well supported.

Staff and the head teacher were professional, enthusiastic and motivated. They communicated well together and showed respect for their colleagues' abilities. The staff and head teacher had developed excellent transition arrangement between the nursery and the school.

The staff had established effective, rigorous and robust health and safety procedures. The service had risk assessments in place; however we suggested that these continue to be reviewed consistently to identify on-going risk and benefit.

Outcomes for children were being positively affected by training that staff had attended. Staff showed diligence and awareness of this impact and were reflective on their own practice. A range of training had kept staff skills up to date. Staff were knowledgeable and freely engaged in professional dialogue throughout the inspection visit.

The headteacher had actively identified staff skills and interests and creatively engaged them in training. Staff were encouraged and supported by the head teacher to develop new skills and adopt innovative approaches to their practice. Taking this approach has resulted in a confident staff team who worked together towards shared goals. This contributed toward the highly efficient team working we observed and assisted in creating a nurturing environment for children and their families.

During the inspection visit we observed a number of occasions that outcomes for children were clearly and effectively improving as a direct result of the staff team engaging the family in the learning process. The headteacher spoke to us about families who were previously struggling to cope and who were now working well with staff and the Nursery.

## What the service could do better

Further enhance outcomes for children by continuing to develop links between personal plans, home achievements and planning.

Review and update policies, procedures and risk assessment in line with local and national guidance consistently and timeously.

Undertake a comprehensive risk assessment of the nappy changing area. Ensure that if numbers of children requiring access to this area increases, that the facilities are fit for purpose in accordance with the publication 'Nappy changing facilities in early years nursery and large childminding services.' (Publication code: OPS-0913-243) available on Care Inspectorate website.

## 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](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
12 Dec 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
25 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
18 Nov 2008	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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