

Bell's Brae Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Gilbertson Road
Lerwick
Shetland
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Telephone: 01595 743720

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 7 February 2018

Service provided by:
Shetland Islands Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002063

Care service number:
CS2003016115

About the service

This service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011. The service operates from areas within Bell's Brae Primary School in Lerwick, Shetland.

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 28 children at any one time aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. The service has two classes operating Monday to Friday during school term time. The service currently provides morning sessions in the two classes, one of which is extended to allow children to stay until 12.40 pm.

Bell's Brae has a vision statement which states:

"Bell's Brae strives to create an ethos of achievement and enjoyment where everyone feels safe, supported, valued and respected in order to develop life skills, reach their full potential and gain happy memories".

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information in relation to all care services is available on our website at www.scswis.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. 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.

What people told us

We sent out 24 Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) and 16 were returned to us before the inspection. We emailed eight parents who supplied their email address and received one reply. These showed us parents were very happy with the service. When asked about the overall quality of care their child received at the service parents told us their children were well cared for and happy to attend. Parents who had children with additional support needs (ASN) told us the care given to their children was "excellent". They were very pleased that the early years and ASN department worked in partnership allowing children to access early years with a support worker.

Included in the written comments from parents were:

"Staff are always so friendly and welcoming, they take great care in making sure all children participate in activities and respect the children's choices to what I've seen being in the nursery. My daughter loves attending the nursery and regularly doesn't want to leave she's having so much fun. I've also noticed she's learning a great deal and feel the nursery is bringing out the best of her abilities".

"As parents of a child with complex needs we feel he is very well looked after and all his needs are met by the very caring and professional teachers and carers".

From discussions with parents during the inspection, and a telephone conversation following the inspection, we found parents were very happy with the service provided. They told us their children enjoyed their time at Bell's Brae, accessed a wide range of activities and played outdoors most days, weather permitting. All parents thought very highly of the staff describing them as: "friendly and helpful", "lovely", and "just great".

We talked with several of the children during our inspection. When asked if they liked coming to Bell's Brae they confirmed they did. When asked what they liked about the service they generally described their favourite activities, which ranged from playing in the snow to stories, having snack and dressing-up.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We no longer ask services to do this. We looked at their quality assurance processes during the inspection. The acting depute head teacher emailed a copy of the school Improvement Plan 2017-18. This plan outlined their priorities for improvement and how they would be 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	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

Bell's Brae had a warm and caring atmosphere where we saw busy children engrossed in their play with happy, smiling faces. Staff are kind, caring and nurturing and obviously enjoyed their role as educators. Planning was curriculum-based and staff recorded children's individual learning and development and planned how to ensure they progressed at their own level. Parents received a weekly email showing what the children had been learning that week and what they planned to look at the next week.

Staff knew the children well and could describe how they met their individual care needs. We saw staff were enthusiastic about the children and keen to make sure they were happy and safe. Staff promoted healthy lifestyles with children and provided opportunities for outdoor play. We noted very good infection control procedures were in place, which showed us staff were aware of their role in keeping children safe, secure and happy.

Children with additional support needs were very well cared for with excellent partnership working between the early years staff and the additional support unit. Clear and detailed care plans were in place which ensured all staff were aware of the additional care needs of specific children. Parents of these children were completely happy with the high level of care and support given by the professional staff.

There was an ethos of improvement with the school as a whole. We saw strong teamwork by staff who were dedicated to the service and keen to improve. Staff were well supported by the senior team describing Bell's Brae as: "a super place to work". Since the previous inspection the environment had been renovated creating a bright, child-friendly area where children could learn through their play. We saw children investigating, exploring and playing with their friends. It was nice to see them taking turns, sharing and being encouraged to be considerate of others.

What the service could do better

Each child had a care plan which had been regularly reviewed. However, these had not been reviewed with parents, which was an area we discussed and staff stated their intent to look at this.

We looked at quality assurance and discussed the need to ensure parents had opportunities to comment on the service provided and we talked about methods they used and the need to continue with this.

We shared feedback gained from parents during the inspection which they stated they would look at.

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
26 Jan 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
21 Feb 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
4 Feb 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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