

Croftamie Nursery Day Care of Children

Glasgow Road
Croftamie
Drymen
Glasgow
G63 0EU

Telephone: 01360 660147

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

26 July 2018

Service provided by:

Stirling Council

Service provider number:

SP2003002689

Service no:

CS2003015613

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

This service has been registered since 2002.

Croftamie Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 32 children at any one time, aged from two years to those not attending primary school. The nursery is located in the village of Croftamie, Stirlingshire and is very much part of the local community. Children have access to a large open plan playroom with an upper level quiet area, toilets, changing facilities and a number of outdoor areas. These included a running track, an allotment, a 'fairy' garden, a courtyard and a hen coop.

The nursery state that their vision is as follows:

"To provide an enriching and interactive environment where everyone feels valued, respected, has a sense of belonging and is encouraged to reach their full potential."

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.

Please note that parents and carers will be referred to as parents throughout the report. As part of this inspection we focussed on how this service promoted children's health and wellbeing through infection prevention measures.

What people told us

We spent time with the children present on the day we visited. They were all very confident and friendly. Most were able to tell us about the nursery and about themselves. The children were all at ease in the care of staff and were welcomed warmly into the nurturing atmosphere.

We spoke with one child who was going to primary school after the summer, they told us: "I'm doing testers at school and I know my new teacher. I will miss the bikes and the staff."

We sent 10 care standards questionnaires to parents of the children who attended the service. Six completed questionnaires were returned. All parents either 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that overall they were happy with the quality of care provided by the service.

Comments that represent the parents views are included below:

'Excellent nursery with a great outside space. The staff are great and my child is very happy there.'

'Croftamie is an excellent nursery. The environment is clean and tidy and filled with engaging areas. The staff make fantastic use of all spaces, both in and outside to plan learning experiences for the children. The staff are warm and friendly and the communication is regular and informative. Our child has been really happy and feels safe and confident at all times. Any issues have been resolved quickly and with care. Super happy parent and child!'

'My child has additional needs and his keyworker has been excellent with them. As a nursery, they are working well with each other and other professionals to support my child. They keep us informed with progress daily as well as regular intervention meetings. My son loves the nursery and I feel that, along with the staff, have made a big difference to his development.'

'This is a fantastic nursery which provides a great space for my child to grow and develop. They have maximised the outdoor spaces into learning and play and active opportunities. In particular the chickens, vegetable plot, and running track. My child's keyworker is great and I am confident that any concerns or ideas regarding their learning are listened to. All the staff have genuine interest in encouraging the children and provide a happy environment.'

'Excellent care for both my children over the past four years. Their time at nursery is stimulating, caring and a huge amount of fun, they have both loved it. With recent changes in senior leadership it is very clear that the environment and care is held together and developed by the core nursery team. They are absolutely excellent and bring a wide variety of skills and interests to fully enrich learning and play.'

Self assessment

We did not request a self-assessment as part of this inspection. We looked at and discussed the services' internal improvement plans.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

Croftamie nursery provides excellent care and support to children and their families, with their wellbeing at the heart of the service. There is a warm, safe and inclusive ethos. Direct and purposeful interactions between parents and staff resulted in partnership working to enable children to achieve. The extremely motivated core staff team had built strong attachments with children and trusting relationships with parents. Staff listened carefully to the views of families and this impacted very positively on how the service improved. Community spirit was evident through evidence of family triathlons to raise funds and all children past and present coming to the nursery's 20th birthday celebrations.

The passionate team had worked hard to further enhance the outdoor area with parents help using the

fundraising money. There were signs of improvement to the learning environment in many areas indoors and outdoors. For instance, purposeful changes had enhanced the children's use of the craft area and this resulted in further exploration, deeper concentration and increased skills and abilities for many children. A key feature was the play environment with open ended play both indoors (natural materials) and outdoors (loose parts). Children actively explored their environment, had fun and developed their imagination, social and physical skills.

Interactions between children, families and staff in the service were warm and nurturing. A welcoming, open and honest ethos ensured everyone felt involved. Meaningful engagement with children gave them opportunities to be leaders, make choices and build a stronger sense of self-confidence.

Highly skilled staff interacted with children in a way that recognised the potential learning, emotional benefit and value they could add at opportune times. The high quality interactions observed contributed to children's emotional wellbeing and confidence.

Systems to identify and ensure children's needs were met were exceptional. Staff understood and supported the unique circumstances for every child in the service. Children's verbal and non-verbal cues were highly respected, helping them to feel included and responsible for their learning and development. Children were at the heart of all planning and this was focussed on developing skills for life. They were recognised as capable and responsible and were developing a love of learning and nature through play experiences. The end of year video demonstrated this very well.

The enthusiastic team helped children to engage, understand routines and develop their language and communication skills. Children's confidence and self-esteem was developing as they were respected, listened to and received a lot of praise and encouragement from staff for their efforts. They respected children's work by showcasing it in a variety of ways. Drawings and creations were proudly displayed around the room and shared in newsletters and on social media.

The service maintained sound progress to self-evaluation as management and staff worked together to identify key priority areas for improvement and evaluated progress. To ensure sustained positive outcomes for the children and their families the passionate and motivated senior team and local authority supported staff who were professional and committed to their work and their own personal development.

What the service could do better

We suggested the daily mile health initiative be evaluated. Outcomes were not yet being measured in relation to children's views about this. This particular aspect of the children's day was not in-keeping with free-flow and the choice that children had for the rest of the day, and also some children showed a lack of interest. We advised assessing the children's benefit, enjoyment and preferences over time to enable the team to decide on the best way of promoting active and healthy lifestyles.

The team already had plans to adapt the learners' journals. We supported their plans and gave suggestions of how to better record the children's individual voice, evaluations and knowledge of their own learning outcomes. Experiences could be more clearly linked to curricular outcomes and may include other success criteria such as the national wellbeing indicators, health and social care standards and children's rights.

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
2 Aug 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent Not assessed Not assessed
2 Jun 2014	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
30 Jul 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
18 Nov 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
1 Feb 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed
15 Dec 2008	Unannounced	Care and support
		6 - Excellent

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
15 Dec 2008	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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