

Care service inspection report

Quality themed inspection (day care for children)

Lauder Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Lauder Primary School
Allanbank Gardens
Lauder

Service provided by: Scottish Borders Council

Service provider number: SP2003001976

Care service number: CS2003017372

Inspection Visit Type: Unannounced

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and set out improvements that must be made. We also investigate complaints about care services and take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

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1 About the service we inspected

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at: www.careinspectorate.com

This service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Lauder Primary School Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children at any one time from the age of three years to not yet attending primary school.

Staffing ratios as stated in the National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 must be maintained at all times. A minimum of two adults must be present at all times.

The nursery operates from a purpose built room within Lauder Primary School.

The aims of the nursery included:

'Our aim is to make your child's experience of Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) a happy and enjoyable experience and to make him/her secure and comfortable in the ELCC environment.

We strive to provide an experience which is both challenging and fun, one which includes and encourages, and above all, provides the context where the child feels secure and happy as they take their first steps on their learning journey'.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach in inspecting care services for children.

The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It's a consistent way for people to work with all children and young people. The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it right for every child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

In Scotland, the Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) approach puts wellbeing at the very heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are- safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included - often referred to as 'SHANARRI'.

What we did during the inspection

We carried out a 'themed' inspection. This targeted approach means that we looked at identified aspects focusing on children's experiences under each Quality Theme.

Quality of care and support - Child protection and multi agency working.

Quality of environment - Risk in play and outdoor play and learning

Quality of staffing - Staff learning and development

Quality of management and leadership - Self evaluation and monitoring.

We wrote this report after an unannounced inspection which took place between 9.45am and 3.30pm on 27 April and between 9.45am and 12.45pm on 28 April 2016. We gave feedback to the Head Teacher and Senior Nursery Nurse on 3 May 2016. The inspection was carried out by one Care Inspectorate Inspector.

We sent the service 10 Care Standards Questionnaires to give to parents and carers of children who used the service. Seven were returned before the inspection. We also sent two questionnaires for the manager to give to staff. Both were returned before the inspection.

At this inspection we gathered evidence from various sources, including:

- The self assessment and annual return
- Risk assessments
- Health and Safety policy
- Child Protection policy and procedures
- Children's personal learning plans (PLP's) and observation records
- The nursery handbook
- Observation of the environment, toys and equipment
- Discussion with staff and observation of their interaction with the children
- Discussion with the Head Teacher
- Discussion with Parents
- Talking to the children and observing their play

Taking the views of people using the care service into account

We spoke to most of the children throughout the inspection. We also joined in their play and chatted to them about things they enjoyed at nursery. They told us they 'Love to play in the sand and ride the bikes'. We could see the children were happy, included and confident in nursery.

Taking carers' views into account

Parents we spoke to gave very positive comments about the nursery and staff. It was clear they were very happy with the service and were welcome to go in at any time.

Comments on Self Assessment

Every year all care services must complete a 'self assessment' form telling us how their service is performing. We check to make sure this assessment is accurate.

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self assessment document from the service provider. We were satisfied with the way they had completed this and with the relevant information they had given us for each heading that we grade them under.

2 The grades we awarded

We grade the quality of care and support, quality of the environment, quality of staffing and quality of management and leadership. In each case, we award a grade on a scale from 1 to 6, where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent.

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

3 Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We found the nursery provided a very good standard of care and support to children and their families.

The child protection policy and procedure was detailed and included the service's responsibility in protecting children and keeping them safe. Staff we spoke to were very knowledgeable and aware of the procedure to follow if they had any concerns about a child. This confirmed they had a very good understanding of their responsibility in protecting children and keeping them safe from harm. They gave us confidential examples of how they worked closely with other professionals and families in keeping children safe and protected.

We saw that children were independent, confident and aware of healthy eating. This meant children could choose from a variety of healthy foods, including fresh fruit and vegetables. Children were listened to and their choices respected as staff included them in planning snack. We saw snack was a sociable time where they could sit and chat with their friends. We saw them choosing their snack and pour their own drinks. Snack was offered throughout the session which meant children were not interrupted in their play and could choose when they wanted snack.

Grade

The quality of care and support is graded 5 - Very Good

Requirements

Number of requirements - 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations - 0

4 Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found, and parents agreed, the service was a safe, clean, warm and welcoming environment where children could play and get involved in a wide range of activities. Comments included:

'I am very happy with the service provided. The resources are good and the staff work hard to create a nurturing and fun environment for my children'.

The nursery environment was calm and relaxed. Staff had used the space well which meant children could explore the resources on offer and make choices in their play. We observed children being kind and respectful to each other and play happily in small groups with their friends both inside and outside.

Children had very good opportunities to be active, healthy and get lots of fresh air as they could access the outdoor play area directly from the playroom throughout the session when they chose. We saw them having fun making sand castles, digging in the mud, riding on bikes, balancing on logs and playing on the climbing frame.

Staff recognised the importance of outdoor play and promoting the children's health, wellbeing and independence. Children were involved in risk assessing the outdoor area every day. This made them feel responsible and included, which influenced their play and learning. We saw them checking the equipment, making sure it was safe before their friends went out to play.

Grade

The quality of environment is graded 5 - Very Good

Requirements

Number of requirements - 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations - 0

5 Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Although there had been a slight change to the staff team in the past few months we found they worked very well together as a team. We could see they were very enthusiastic, highly motivated and committed to providing the best outcomes for the children. They interacted with the children in a warm, caring, nurturing manner while supporting them in their play. It was clear children had developed very trusting relationships with staff and were confident and happy to approach them if they needed help.

Staff were committed to continuing their professional which they did through Scottish Borders Council CPD site.

Recent training included:

Child Protection

GIRFEC

Building the Ambition

Children's Learning Journeys

Staff told us how training had kept their skills and knowledge up to date and had impacted on children's experiences. We could see staff had worked hard to embed GIRFEC and Building the Ambition within the nursery to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children, for example sessions are more child led which allowed children the choice of what they would like to play with and learn about. Staff told us the results had been very positive, for example the children were more motivated and focussed in their play.

Parents who completed our questionnaires 'strongly agreed' with the statement 'I am confident that staff have the skills and experience to care for my child and support their learning and development'.

Comments included:

'I was particularly impressed with the work of (X) towards Building the Ambition'.

'Great school and Teachers'.

Grade

The quality of staffing is graded 5 - Very Good

Requirements

Number of requirements - 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations - 0

6 Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

At the inspection we found, and parents we spoke to agreed, the service had maintained their very good practice for this Quality Theme.

As part of the nursery's partnership arrangement with the local authority they produced a yearly development plan using the quality indicators 'Child at the Centre 2', a national framework to support review and development of practice and 'How Good is Our School' (HGIOS). This identified what action the nursery was going to take to progress developments in practice, for example improved opportunities for active learning and learning through play.

The Head Teacher and all staff were involved in the self-evaluation process. The Head Teacher was responsible for the overall running of the nursery and met regularly with staff to discuss progress. This meant they could identify areas of good practice and discuss any ideas for improvement.

Children were included in the planning as staff listened to their ideas and suggestions for activities and play, which was reflected in the floorbooks and displayed for parents to see. Parents we spoke to all said they were always welcome

in nursery, for example the 'stay and play' sessions which meant they had very good opportunities to see what their child did in nursery and share their ideas about activities.

Grade

The quality of management and leadership is graded 5 - Very Good

Requirements

Number of requirements - 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations - 0

7 What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at our last inspection

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

8 What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at our last inspection

Previous recommendations

1. Written risk assessments should be put in place for the indoor and outdoor areas, ensuring the safety of the children.

National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:
Standard 2 - A safe environment.

This recommendation was made on 17 April 2013

Written risk assessments were in place.

This recommendation had been met.

9 Complaints

No complaints have been upheld, or partially upheld, since the last inspection.

10 Enforcements

We have taken no enforcement action against this care service since the last inspection.

11 Additional Information

There is no additional information.

12 Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
17 Apr 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 5 - Very Good Staffing 5 - Very Good Management and Leadership 5 - Very Good
26 Jan 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very Good Environment 5 - Very Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and Leadership 4 - Good

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