Todholm Early Learning and Childcare Class
Day Care of Children

Todholm Primary School
Lochfield Road
Paisley
PA2 7JE

Telephone: 0141 889 6949

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
4 February 2020

Service provided by:
Renfrewshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003388

Service no:
CS2003014770

About the service

This service has registered with the Care Inspectorate since 1 April 2001.

Todholm Nursery is a daycare of children service situated within Todholm Primary School, located within the Paisley area of Renfrewshire. The service is near to local amenities and bus routes. The provider of the service is Renfrewshire Council.

Children have access to a large playroom with two smaller adjoining rooms, where they can access different experiences. Children also benefit from a large, secure, outdoor area and regularly make use of the school gym hall.

The service is currently registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 56 children at any one time aged three years to those not yet attending primary school.

The nursery shares their aims and objectives with the school. They include the following:

- To provide for each child a broad, balanced curriculum which takes account of national and local guidance.
- To enable all pupils to achieve their potential by continuing to develop strategies which improve and maintain attainment.
- To provide an atmosphere of warmth where children can learn to care for themselves and others and develop respect for the views and beliefs of others.
- To create a happy, stimulating and safe environment with good use of well trained staff and well organised resources.

A full copy of their aims and objectives can be obtained from the service.

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. The wellbeing indicators that are essential for children to flourish are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included (SHANARRI).

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by the 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.

What people told us

Children appeared to be happy and settled at the nursery. We saw positive relationships between children and a caring staff team. Children were keen to share their learning experiences with us. Included in their comments were:

"I can write my name"

"My favourite thing to do is sing"

We sent out 19 care standard questionnaires and 16 were returned before the inspection. All indicated that they were either 'happy' or 'very happy' with the standard of care and learning opportunities their children were provided with. Included in the comments were:

"We are very happy sending our son to Todholm. All the staff are friendly, approachable and seem to have the children's best interests at heart. We think they are doing an amazing job with the children"

"Todholm has a lovely environment and caring, warm and friendly staff. The forest kindergarten trips are great fun for the kids"

"Todholm ELCC is a very well managed nursery. The staff go above and beyond for all the kids in their care. They include parents in every aspect of nursery life"

"My daughter absolutely loves nursery. I believe it provides an excellent, caring and nurturing environment. The outdoor activities such as the woodland walk and taking care of the chickens are an amazing practical experience for the children...all the staff are an asset to the nursery"

"We have nothing but good things to say about the way the service is run and the performance of staff"

"I feel the nursery have been fantastic since my child started...staff have always been caring and supportive"

"We are delighted with the nursery and staff. We can't fault it in any way"

"(My son) loves attending the nursery, especially the outdoor play and forest kindergarten. He has made really good friends with support from the staff. The staff are very friendly and helpful"

"My child is very happy at Todholm nursery, she looks forward to it every day and that says it all. The staff are very committed to giving the children the best experience at nursery, it is very clear how much they care. Overall, I feel assured and proud that my child is so well taken care of at Todholm nursery".

All comments were shared with the service.

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	not assessed
Quality of staffing	5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Children were happy, busy and engaged in play. They interacted and responded well to staff caring for them. We found staff to be warm, welcoming, and nurturing which contributed to children feeling safe and secure.

The service worked hard to involve parents in the life of the centre, for example through stay and play sessions, home link challenges and the 'Family Fun club'. Parents valued the level of care that they and their children received. They told us that they felt welcome in the nursery and could approach staff with ease.

Staff were knowledgeable about the service's child protection procedures and their roles and responsibilities. They attended training and received regular updates. This meant staff were well placed to take the appropriate action to keep children safe, supporting their health and wellbeing.

Children were supported to communicate at their own pace in a way that was right for them. Staff were verbally responsive to children and used Makaton (a language communication programme using signs and symbols) to ensure children's understanding and to ease their communication frustrations. This supported children's emotional wellbeing and helped them feel included in the service.

Children could lead their own learning based on their interests. This was supported by free-flow access between the playroom and outdoor play space. Children were skilled at assessing their own risks and they showed confidence and resilience during play. We saw children investigating mud and water, balancing on wooden blocks and swinging from trees.

Staff were supportive of children - they allowed them to lead their own play but used effective questioning to extend children's thinking, investigation and problem-solving skills. This told us that staff were skilled and knowledgeable about children's development which ensured positive outcomes for children.

Staff met regularly to discuss children's needs. They benefitted from a wide range of training which allowed them to lead learning opportunities in the nursery, based on their interests, skills and abilities. This resulted in rich experiences for children, for example through loose parts play, caring for chickens, forest kindergarten and participating in a variety of music sessions and displays.

Staff worked well together as a team. They were respectful and friendly towards each other. New staff told us that they were welcomed into the service and they felt well supported by more experienced staff. During discussions, staff demonstrated a passion for their role and a commitment to deliver positive outcomes for children. This showed they were well placed to continue to develop the service.

What the service could do better

We sampled children's personal plans and found that some had not been reviewed within the required timescales and did not always reflect individual children's needs. Personal plans should be reviewed to ensure that they reflect regular consultation with parents and clearly set out how children's identified health, welfare and safety needs will be met. The service should continue to develop learning profiles to ensure they clearly reflect children's progression in learning.

Management and staff should continue to review the quality of snack and lunch experiences for children. Consideration should be given to the supervision of handwashing and opportunities for good role modelling. The service should share information with parents about allergens and healthy food choices so that children benefit from a good balance of healthy, nutritional snacks.

We found that there were short periods of the day where there was a high level of noise within the playroom and children's level of engagement varied. Management should review the deployment of staff to ensure that children are supported to engage in more purposeful play during key times of the day.

We asked the service to consider reviewing arrangements for children's personal care including nappy changing.

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.

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

Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

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

Previous recommendations

There are no outstanding recommendations.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
24 Nov 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed
29 Oct 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
4 Nov 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
9 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can 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.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànain eile ma nithear iarrtas.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.