Chapelgreen Primary Nursery Class
Day Care of Children

Mill Road
Queenzieburn
Kilsyth
Glasgow
G65 9EF

Telephone: 01236 794 836

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
30 March 2022

Service provided by:
North Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003000237

Service no:
CS2003015420

About the service

Chapelgreen Primary Nursery Class is provided by North Lanarkshire Council and is based in Queenzieburn, Kilsyth. The service is provided from an accessible single storey annex within the school grounds. It features a welcome area where children can store their belongings, toilets, changing facilities, playroom and rear garden which is accessible from the playroom. The children also use the main school for mealtimes and activities.

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children.

The age range of the children will be 3 years to those not yet attending primary school. During the operating times the service will have exclusive use of the premises and secured outdoor play area.

The service will comply with the following staffing: Children aged 3 and over, 1:10 adult to child ratio.

The service cares for 16 children. 13 children were present during our visit. Children attend the service Monday to Friday between the hours of 09:00 and 15:00.

The head teacher is the named manager of the service. She is present part of the week as she has management responsibilities for another school.

The day-to-day care and support is provided by a lead practitioner two early years practitioners who both work part of the week and a support worker.

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Tuesday 22 March 2022 between 09:15 and 13:30 hours. In addition to an on-site visit we used technology to share information. We provided feedback to the management team on 30 March 2022.

As part of this process we undertook observations in the playroom to observe practice and children's experiences. We spoke with children who experienced care at the service and one parent/carer. We also spoke with the manager and early years staff and reviewed relevant documents.

What people told us

Children were happy, settled and enjoyed spending time at nursery. They told us about their favourite activities, with playing outdoors being a particular favourite. One child told us about the fun they had playing in the water the day before and how they planned to do the same that day. Another was eager to tell us about how they had built 'the biggest tower' and another told us they liked a particular book and happily shared the story with the inspector.

The parent who contacted us confirmed they were very happy with the quality of care and support their child received at the service. The spoke positively about special friendships, play experiences, particularly outdoors, lunchtimes and the opportunities to engage in the local community. They spoke very highly of management and staff and about information sharing arrangements.

Self assessment

We did not request a self-assessment from the service

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Chapelgreen Primary Nursery Class had created a positive, nurturing ethos where children and families were placed at the centre of their work.

Children were relaxed, happy and settled in nursery and were valued and respected by staff. They had formed positive relationships with staff and received cuddles, warmth and affection, with some seeking this throughout the day. This created a caring, nurturing environment where children felt safe, secure and loved. Children had developed special friendships with one another and we observed children being kind, caring and helping each other.

Children's emotional wellbeing was sensitively supported by staff. Children had access to a good range of resources to support them to develop self-regulatory skills, including a nurture area which had been created to provide an emotionally secure space.

There were sufficient numbers of staff to meet the needs of the children attending the service. Each child had a key worker who was responsible for their care and wellbeing. This was supported by the lead practitioner who provided consistent care each day. It is important for children to experience a continuous caring relationship to help them settle and feel safe and secure.

Children's health and wellbeing was supported by the use of personal plans. From the plans we viewed, these demonstrated staff had gathered important information about children's health and wellbeing needs and how these would be supported. We identified areas where children's plans could be strengthened which the management team agreed to take forward. Staff knew children well and were able to share with us how they supported their individual care and support needs. A parent told us about they ways they were involved in planning for their child.

Positive changes to children's routines and activities resulted in them having opportunities to engage in a range of child-initiated activities both indoors and out. Staff had developed a more child led approach to children's play and activities took account of their interests. This enabled children to fully follow their own interests and supported them to take ownership of their learning.

Children's learning and wellbeing was further promoted through opportunities to engage in play outdoors. Most children chose to spend extended periods outdoors and this was well supported by staff. We observed children having fun and enjoying a variety of stimulating outdoor play experiences. Staff were enthusiastic about being outdoors and understood the importance of outdoor play to children's health, wellbeing and development. As a result children were motivated to spend most of their time here.

Children benefited from opportunities to engage in their local community. This enriched children's learning, helped them form strong links and develop wide-ranging relationships.

We found the children's lunchtime experience to be pleasant and relaxed. Children were seated comfortably and happily chatted with their friends. Staff sat with the children interacting positively with them and supporting when required. Children's individual special dietary requirements had been considered. We discussed ways in which mealtimes could be improved with the management team, who have agreed to take this forward.

Management and staff had established positive relationships parents/carers. A range of communication methods were used, for example phone calls, emails and online journals. These were used to ensure parents/carers were kept informed about their child's progress and ensured essential links were maintained between home and nursery, which supports continuity of care.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found the areas used by children to be safe and secure. A secure entry system was in place with information relating to Covid-19 displayed for visitors.

The playroom was welcoming with a calm and relaxed atmosphere. It was well-lit and was of a suitable temperature for the children. The environment was generally well maintained, clean and tidy. The playroom was suitably furnished and the layout provided children with spaces to play on their own or as part of a larger group. Spaces reflect children's current interests and needs, with appropriate resources and materials to support learning that children could access independently.

The nurture area was a quiet, calm space for children who wished to spend some time alone or those who required to relax and rest. Suitable soft furnishings and resources provided comfort and reassurance, creating a cosy space for the children.

Children had direct access to a large outdoor space from the playroom. This had been extended since the last inspection. It was a safe, secure and interesting space with varied surfaces for children to play. This natural play space with dens, logs, willow, trees and mud kitchen provided an interesting, stimulating area for children to explore, be creative and engage in active and risky play. We observed active children practising their skills in running, climbing, jumping and balancing. Children demonstrated a good understanding of how to keep themselves and their friends safe.

Children were sensitively supported by staff to respect their nursery and take care of their toys and equipment.

The areas used by children were clean with toys and equipment cleaned regularly. We found some aspects of infection prevention and control procedures and practice could be better, including hand hygiene and practice relating to children's personal care needs. We highlighted this to the management team who agreed to address this. This will help minimise the risk of spread of infection in the service.

We highlighted that the children's changing area could be improved to meet current standards.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of staffing

Findings from the inspection

Staff were kind, caring and nurturing in their interactions with the children and were respectful and affectionate. They enjoyed working in the nursery and were committed to improving outcomes for children and families. Staff understood children's needs and the role they played in supporting them. A parent confirmed staff knew their child well.

There was now full staff and management team in place which had resulted in some positive developments. New staff had been well supported since joining the service which had resulted in them settling well in the team. There was a good balance of skills and experience across the team with more recent staff being supported well in their role.

All staff were registered with the appropriate professional body.

Staff were knowledgeable about child protection procedures. New staff had received training relating to child protection which was also delivered annually to all staff. As a result staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children.

Staff had engaged in a variety of training and professional reading to develop their knowledge and skills including block play, schematic play, enhanced transitions, stem pedagogy, trauma, attachment and brain development, adverse childhood experiences and nurture training. They had also kept up to date with changes to guidance through the pandemic and ensured these were implemented to keep children and their families safe.

Staff told us about the impact training had on their practice and we could see where this had helped improve experiences for children. Training was sought to support individual children's specific needs. This helped ensure their needs were well supported.

Staff told us they have been supported to be more reflective practitioners which is important to maintain and continually improve the quality of their practice. Staff would benefit from continued training, sharing practice, reading and research to improve and embed practice. Management were in the process of developing a more meaningful professional review and development programme to support staff to develop in their role. The management team were committed to using meaningful and supportive ways to develop staff individually and as a team.

Staff worked well together and felt supported and valued by the management team. They told us communication was good and that they were consulted on important matters. Regular staff meetings provided staff with opportunities to receive updates on the service, discuss individual children and share ideas on what was working well in the playrooms and what could be improved. Staff told us about some of the key changes to the service and about the positive impact this had on their practice and the quality of children's experiences.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

There had been some positive changes made to the management team since the last inspection. Management and staff had made good progress in making improvements to the service. The management team had identified relevant priorities for the service which were set out in the service's improvement plan. Staff were familiar with these and were involved in taking these forward. Self evaluation using best practice guidance was used to highlight the good practice in the setting and areas for improvement and how this could be achieved.

The management team had a good understanding of the improvements that were still needed to improve the overall quality of the service. As there is now a full management and staff team in place, this should support the service to strengthen their approach in improving the quality of the service and the

development of robust quality assurance systems.

The management team demonstrated positive leadership. They valued staff and were committed to ensuring they were motivated and supported to carry out their role effectively.

There was a commitment to using staff's strengths, interests and skills to lead on specific areas of practice. This would enable staff to develop leadership skills and strengthen their knowledge of best practice guidance.

The provider, manager and staff had worked hard to meet the two recommendations made at the last inspection. This included improvements to children's plans, routines and play experience and ensuring there were sufficient staff to meet the needs of the children attending the service.

The management team had developed a new system to evaluate staff performance with plans to implement this soon. This will provide opportunities for staff and management to reflect on and review individuals performance and support them to develop in their role.

The service used a variety of effective methods to communicate with parents/carers. This ensured they were kept up to date and involved in the life of the service.

Management and staff welcomed feedback from parents/carers and demonstrated a commitment to using their views to improve the service.

The head teacher has responsibility for another school and is present in Chapelgreen Primary School Nursery Class for only part of the week. Appropriate management arrangements were in place in her absence.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

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

Recommendation 1

The manager and staff should ensure children's needs are being supported effectively.

This is to ensure, that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social care Standards which state;

'My personal plan is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices' (HSCS 1.15) and 'my care and support meets my needs and is right for me' (HSCS 1.19).

Special consideration should be given to:
- Activities and routines
- Mealtimes
- The use of supportive strategies
- Children's personal plans.

This recommendation was made on 30 May 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The management team and staff had taken positive steps to address this recommendation. Progress had been made with information contained in children's personal plans. Mealtimes had been improved, creating a more positive experience for children and activities and routines were responsive to the children's needs.

These areas are discussed further in the care and support section of this report.

This recommendation had been met

Recommendation 2

The provider should ensure there are sufficient numbers of staff to meet the needs of children at all times.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social care Standards which state;

'My needs are met by the right number of people' (HSCS 3.15)

This recommendation was made on 30 May 2019.

Action taken on previous recommendation

There had been some staff changes since the last inspection. A Lead Practitioner and Support Worker had recently been recruited. There were sufficient numbers of staff to meet the needs of the children on the day of our visit.

This recommendation had been met

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
30 May 2019	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good Not assessed 3 - Adequate Not assessed
3 Mar 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
24 Mar 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 2 - Weak 4 - Good 2 - Weak
8 May 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 2 - Weak 4 - Good 4 - Good
12 Mar 2013	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
30 Mar 2012	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 1 - Unsatisfactory
2 Apr 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 5 - Very good 4 - Good

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