Corstorphine Primary School Nursery
Day Care of Children

Corstorphine High Street
Edinburgh
EH12 7SY

Telephone: 0131 334 3865

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
29 May 2019

Service provided by:
City of Edinburgh Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002576

Service no:
CS2003015840

About the service

Corstorphine Primary School Nursery is an integral part of Corstorphine Primary School. The nursery is situated in a residential area of Edinburgh and is close to transport routes and local amenities. Since the last inspection the nursery has moved into a purpose-built, self-contained building within the school playground. The building consists of a large playroom with access to the outdoor area. There is also a kitchen area, toilets, an entrance hall with a cloakroom area, an office and a staff room which is also used for small group work by staff.

The nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 50 children at any one time aged between 3 years and primary school entry.

The school's head teacher and depute head teacher are referred to as 'the management team' within this report.

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), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it Right for Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

We observed the children throughout the inspection and found them to be happy and confident within their environment. They were able to move around freely and engaged in the variety of challenging and stimulating activities on offer both indoors and outside in the garden area. They interacted with us and were happy to show us around their nursery and tell us about their play.

We sent 30 Care Inspectorate care standards questionnaires to the nursery to distribute to parents. We received 25 completed questionnaires before the inspection took place. Twenty four parents strongly agreed or agreed that they were happy with the quality of care their child received in the nursery. Some parents and carers wrote comments which we discussed with management team and nursery teacher whilst ensuring their anonymity. Representative comments included:

'I am very happy how my child has grown and developed.'

'I couldn't be happier with the care, support and education that my daughter receives. Since starting (date) she has had so many learning opportunities and her language and communication skills have blossomed. The environment is amazing as is their opportunities with one world groups and the zoo. She is so excited to attend every day and the staff team have created a very positive and fun environment for the children to learn and engage in. I am very thankful for their care and attention, my daughter is thriving as a result.'

'Parents are encouraged to come into the nursery to engage with the children, also to help out on outings. It is obvious that the staff are always looking at ways to improve the nursery setting, adding/rotating books and toys and doing seasonal activities. This enthusiasm and care is passed onto the children as well.'

'My little girl loves going so much so from her I'd say it's pretty amazing.'

'Good and quality service all the time. Very respectful and friendly people.'

'Very happy sending my child to Corstorphine Nursery. The nursery is open with different areas for playing and access to the garden. All the staff are very warm and welcoming. Would have no hesitation in recommending the nursery to newcomers.'

'Staff have always dealt appropriately if there have been any concerns.'

'My daughter has settled well into nursery and the staff have been excellent with her. They are always singing and having fun when I collect her at the end of the day.'

'While I receive occasional updates on my child's learning profile these are sporadic and mainly about groups rather than individuals. Staff are frequently late opening at the start of the session and early opening at the end. Several days before the end of each term the nursery is packed up leaving minimal resources for the children. The children spend far too long on the carpet at the end of each session.'

A concern was raised regarding the way information is shared between staff and parents which we discussed with the management team who have agreed to take this forward.

Self assessment

The nursery 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 nursery.

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

A strong staff team had been established who supported each other to carry out their roles within the nursery. They had built a positive rapport with parents and worked in partnership with them to help ensure they had the information needed to meet children's individual care needs. Staff were knowledgeable about the children and were kind, caring and nurturing in their interactions with them. We saw that children were having fun and enjoying their time at nursery.

Planning had been reviewed by staff and a different format was being used. It reflected children's interests and ideas and was evaluated. Children's views and ideas were valued and respected by staff. Their achievements were celebrated and evidenced in their online learning journals and children were supported to achieve through engaging child centred experiences. Children's suggestions and ideas were valued and used by staff in a responsive way to enhance their learning.

The playroom offered children a variety of experiences which supported their imagination and curiosity. Resources were easily accessible which supported children to extend their play and offered challenge. Natural

materials were used throughout the nursery enabling children to have opportunities for open-ended play. They were encouraged to be independent and given free choice of which activities they would like to play with. The outdoor play area enabled children to explore, investigate and engage in risky play. Children were supported by staff to learn new skills. Loose parts play was being used which empowered children's imagination and creativity as well as encouraging them to explore and manage risk.

Floor books were used to record topics such as children's learning, the community and one planet and contained photographs and children's comment, artwork and mark making. The one planet floor book records topics such as the garden group, recycling, the rights of the children and visits to the Zoo. The nursery teacher had worked with a staff member from the Zoo and together they developed a teaching plan for a four-week period. This gave children opportunities to learn more about different animals, for example tigers, penguins and chimpanzees.

Children's transitions into nursery and when they were moving on to primary one were planned to support them through the changes into a new environment. Parents were encouraged to be involved in settling their children through different events to support them moving on to primary school. For example, experiencing playtime with primary one children and their P6 buddies, parent information evenings and a stay and play session with their parents.

The depute head teacher worked closely with the nursery teacher and staff to support them to identify and implement areas of development within the nursery. This helped to enhance positive learning outcomes for children. A monitoring system was in place which helped staff to focus on children's progress in their learning. This ensured they were offered the correct support when needed.

Staff were involved in the development of the nursery's Standards and Quality Improvement Plan (SQIP). Identified priorities were assessed and information was regularly updated to record how they were being met. There was a quality plan timetable in place to support staff to carry out the planned improvements.

What the service could do better

The nursery staff team should continue to address the priorities identified within the nursery's improvement plan. They should continue to evaluate the service on a regular basis to allow areas for further development to be identified.

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

Recommendation 1

The manager should ensure that medication is administered safely. In order to do this the manager should ensure consent forms are signed and dated by parents to confirm they have been informed when their child was last given medication. Also, the nursery should hold the medication required by children with severe allergies.
National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16
Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 26 October 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The medication system had been reviewed and updated by the nursery staff. Consent forms sampled had been signed appropriately and any medication needed by children was stored safely with the appropriate paperwork. Therefore, this recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 2

The manager should ensure that parents sign all accident and incident forms to confirm they have been informed what happened to their child and the action taken by staff.
National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16
Standard 2: A safe environment.

This recommendation was made on 26 October 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

From the accident and incident forms sampled during this inspection we saw that parents had signed the forms appropriately. Therefore, this recommendation has been met.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
26 Oct 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed
28 May 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
21 Mar 2012	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 3 - Adequate
7 Mar 2012	Re-grade	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed 1 - Unsatisfactory
3 Jun 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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