Glenlyon Primary School Nursery
Day Care of Children

Glenlyon Primary School
Glenlyon
Aberfeldy
PH15 2PP

Telephone: 01887 866 223

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
4 October 2023

Service provided by:
Perth & Kinross Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003370

Service no:
CS2003016079

About the service

Glenlyon Primary School Nursery is a day care of children service in Bridge of Balgie, in Highland Perthshire. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of ten children at any one time aged two years to those not yet attending primary school.

The nursery is located within a large, purpose-built classroom adjoined to the school comprising of a cloakroom, a spacious playroom and toilet facilities. Children also have access to the large garden and playground.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 3 October 2023 between 09:30 and 15:20. Feedback was given on 4 October 2023. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate. There was one child present in the service on the day of inspection.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with one child using the service
- received feedback from two families
- spoke with staff and management
- observed practice and children's experiences
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children experienced high quality care, play and learning. They had fun, joy, and laughter throughout their day.
- Children were well supported by skilled staff who enabled them to achieve.
- High quality facilities and developmentally appropriate spaces supported children to be curious, problem solve, investigate, and learn life skills. Rich outdoor experiences enhanced children's learning.
- A continuous culture of improvement was embraced and enabled children to have consistently positive experiences.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care, play and learning? 5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality Indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support

Children experienced nurturing, caring and kind interactions which supported them to feel happy, confident, and relaxed. Strong relationships had been developed between children and staff which helped them to feel safe and secure.

Children's overall wellbeing was supported by effective information sharing with families. Personal planning information contained relevant information, linked to the wellbeing indicators, to support the development needs of children. Staff spoke very confidently and knowledgeably about children's needs and responded to them compassionately. As a result, children experienced high quality care where they were nurtured, loved and respected.

Children benefitted from high quality snack and lunchtime experiences which promoted opportunities to develop skills for life. For example, the child in the service chose, prepared, and served their own snack. They experienced a calm, relaxed pace during mealtimes and were effectively supported by staff to be as independent as possible. Staff sat and ate with the child during snack and lunch which promoted good eating habits. The nursery child was joined by a friend from the primary school for lunch which created a positive, social experience.

Quality Indicator 1.3: Play and learning

Children experienced joy, fun and laughter throughout their day. They were empowered to be meaningfully and actively involved in planning and leading their play and learning experiences. Planning approaches within the nursery were very child centred and responsive to their interests. Children's words, pictures and ideas were captured within floorbooks and around the setting which demonstrated their involvement. Staff were responsive to their interests and used this to support their development.

Children had developed strong connections to their local community. For example, they grew plants and sold them in the local tearoom and used the money raised to buy food for wildlife in the nursery garden. They experienced rich opportunities outdoors to learn about nature and the world around them. The child attending the service confidently told us about creating hedgehog cafes and watching them on trail cameras. They regularly visited the nearby forest where they had opportunities to explore, be curious, problem solve and investigate. As a result, children were enabled to develop an understanding of their local community and how to care for their environment.

Children were well supported to develop their skills in language, literacy, and numeracy. For example, the child in the service measured ingredients when baking and used descriptive language to discuss the texture of the dough. Skilful staff interactions supported them to extend their vocabulary using effective commentary and open-ended questions. They gave the child plenty of time to think and respond which enabled them to process information and make decisions.

Staff had a very good understanding of child development and theory and demonstrated this in their

practice. For example, they were knowledgeable about children's schematic play types and how to support and extend these experiences. Staff carefully observed play and timed interactions sensitively to create a balance of opportunities which allowed the child to investigate for themselves and noticed the moments they were more receptive to support. As a result, children experienced support at the right time to help them succeed.

Children's individual development and achievements were shared with families through an online platform and journal. Next steps were created in partnership with the children and families. They were individualised and personal to support children's development. As a result, children were happy, confident, and progressing well.

How good is our setting? 5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality Indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

Children experienced a setting which was clean and well maintained. The environment was welcoming, well furnished and comfortable with plenty of natural light and ventilation. Soft lighting in one area of the playroom created a cosy and nurturing space. Children were able to rest and relax on comfortable sofas or retreat to a den. As a result, children experienced a homely environment.

Children's views and opinions were listened to as they designed the layout of playroom and chose what photographs, pictures and drawings were displayed. This demonstrated that children were valued.

The indoor and outdoor environments were developmentally appropriate spaces with interesting, exciting, and stimulating resources. This included a wide variety of loose parts, open-ended materials and real life resources which promoted children's curiosity and imagination. Spaces and resources reflected children's current interests and curiosities. As a result, the child in the service was highly engaged in their play throughout the day.

Children had fun opportunities outdoors to explore and investigate. For example, the child in the service enjoyed collecting lots of natural items around the garden and noticed different species and sizes of plants. They also had opportunities for active and physical play such as playing with a ball which supported the development of their gross motor skills.

Staff effectively supported children to identify and minimise risks. For example, they took responsibility for carrying out a daily risk assessment, both indoors and outdoors. This helped children to keep themselves safe.

Children were supported to be healthy through effective infection prevention and control procedures. Effective handwashing took place by children and staff at appropriate times. This helped to minimise the risk of spread of infection.

How good is our leadership? 5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality Indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well

The vision, values and aims of the service reflected the service provided. A culture of continuous improvement was embraced by staff which enabled children to have consistently positive experiences. This resulted in a very happy, safe, and supportive environment for children and their families.

Staff understood and genuinely valued children and families views to inform the planning and development of the service. Children were enabled to design the spaces and experiences to meet their needs, interests and wishes. This gave children the message that they mattered. Families had opportunities to share feedback during drop off and pick up and through regular questionnaires. Their feedback was welcomed to improve the quality of children's experiences. Parent groups also offered a more informal way to share ideas and suggestions. These opportunities enabled families and staff to build strong relationships which supported a positive culture of improvement.

The small staff team were committed to improving outcomes and confidently demonstrated how they were working towards the improvement priorities. Staff were highly reflective and engaged positively in self-evaluation which informed future monitoring. Staff met regularly with the manager to reflect on the provision in line with improvement plan objectives. These reflections enabled staff to bring about positive changes to outcomes for children and families. As a result, children experienced high quality care, play and learning.

How good is our staff team? 5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality Indicator 4.3: Staff deployment

Staff were highly skilled in ensuring children experienced positive outcomes throughout the day. The child in the nursery was supported by staff who were caring, nurturing and who worked very well together to support their needs. Staff were proactive and communicated well. At lunchtime, staff breaks were well planned to minimise the impact on the child whilst enabling staff to rest and be refreshed. Continuity of care for the child was consistent throughout the day with minimal changes to staffing. This ensured positive transitions and very good communication with families at pick up and drop of times.

Regular visits to neighbouring nurseries had taken place to support children's overall development and wellbeing. Staff were flexible and worked proactively to facilitate these experiences. As a result, children were provided with enhanced social experiences and opportunities to be meaningfully connected to their local community.

Complaints

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

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very Good

How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good

How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good

How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.3 Staff deployment	5 - Very Good

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