Quarter Nursery Class
Day Care of Children

LimekilnburnRoad
Quarter
Hamilton
ML3 7XA

Telephone: 01698 423345

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
21 June 2019

Service provided by:
South Lanarkshire Council

Service provider number:
SP2003003481

Service no:
CS2003016823

About the service

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

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

Quarter Nursery Class is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school.

During the operating times, the service will have exclusive use of the nursery classroom, toilets and outdoor play area.

The provider of the service is South Lanarkshire Council.

The nursery aims had been updated in consultation with children, parents and staff. These included:

'We ensure that the children are at the heart of everything we do. We provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment.'

The full set of aims and objectives were displayed for parents and visitors to 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, happier lives.

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

What people told us

We saw that all children were happy in the care of staff. Some children were keen to tell us about their favourite activities and what they had been learning about at nursery. Children's comments included:

'I like to play in the home corner with my friends (named them). I make soup and chippies and macaroni. I like to play outside the best. I like the mud kitchen but there isn't enough dirt to play in the mud kitchen.'

'We hid in the den. It was dark and we could hear the rain. We had a story in there.'

'I am making a birthday cake. (playdough) This is the sprinkles.' (using coloured sand)

'I found all these flowers. Do you like them? I got five daisies and then more.'

'We can run about outside. We climb on the climbing frame, slide down the slide and go on the toy vehicles. There's so much stuff you can do! There is a mud kitchen with dirt, water and bakery stuff.'

'We were finding out about Julia Donaldson. This book is about Zog. He's a dragon. We read 'The Smartest Giant in Town' too. He left all his smart clothes here in our nursery! You will see them....really!'

We sent 10 care standards questionnaires to the manager to distribute to the parents/carers of children who experienced care at the service. We had a very high return as nine questionnaires were returned before the inspection. We also had the opportunity to speak to parents/carers after their children's graduation ceremony which took place over the course of the inspection.

All parents/carers spoke very highly of management and staff qualities, the nurturing, inclusive ethos and the many varied activities their children had experienced at nursery. Comments included:

'Quarter Nursery has been great. Staff are always happy to listen and help with any issues.'

'The nursery is excellent and my child is thriving. My child has so many activities to challenge their learning. All staff are pleasant with parents/carers and children. An amazing start to each child's learning and education.'

'Amazing little nursery for my child. The staff go above and beyond to help my child who loves coming to nursery and it will be sorely missed when they leave. The staff including the student have an amazing bond with my child. They do whatever they can to make their nursery experience the best possible. These ladies love their jobs and this shows by how happy this makes my child.'

'The nursery staff have boosted my child's confidence and helped them deal with their emotions, whilst not letting them get bored, academically pushing them to learn more. I can't thank the staff enough and I am more than confident they are ready for school this year.'

'Excellent care and service by Quarter Nursery. It is professionally run but balanced with nurturing, kindness, education, health and wellbeing. Five stars!'

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to submit a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed their improvement plan and quality assurance paperwork. These demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

The nursery offered a welcoming, inclusive and nurturing environment for children to have fun and learn through play. Through discussions and observations, it was clear the staff team knew the care and support needs, interests and personalities of all children very well. Detailed information was sought within children's personal plans with targets and next steps set, in agreement with parents. Support from external agencies was sought

and advice and strategies implemented where required. This supported children's individual care and support needs and assisted their progress and development. Parents spoke highly of the whole staff team and the benefits of the online journal initiative. Comments included:

'The online journals are great. We can see photos of what they have been learning about at nursery and the staff also ask us what our child's interests are, what they like to do at home or what they have done over the weekend. Our child particularly liked a game and after we shared a photo of this, the game was bought by the nursery. Our child was keen to learn to write their name and the nursery took this on board. Staff upload photos and information very regularly, even on Sunday evenings! At the parents night I was very impressed by how well the staff knew my child in such a short time. The whole staff team are great.'

We observed staff supporting child-led learning experiences during free flow play between the indoor and outdoor environment. This created a busy learning environment with individual and small groups of children confidently engaging in various activities. The children particularly enjoyed investigating the properties of water as they transported water to the outdoors, filling and pouring from buckets, troughs, pots and pans throughout the session. The introduction of loose parts play outdoors had further extended the children's learning through investigation, problem-solving, story-telling and imaginative play experiences. We also saw how children undertook their 'safety officer' roles and responsibilities effectively throughout the session, helped by staff to understand safety issues and potential hazards in the indoor and outdoor environments.

Staff encouraged hand hygiene, promoted healthy food and drink options and supported children in becoming more independent in making choices and decisions over snack and lunch times. This created relaxed, pleasant and sociable experiences for children while eating.

At the request of the headteacher, the current primary one teachers worked part-time in the nursery to cover staff absence. Together with the nursery staff team, this led to a successful, smooth transition programme, supporting children who start primary school this year and their families. This had also influenced the future structure, routines and active learning opportunities within primary one, providing additional positive outcomes for children as they start school.

Management and staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities for child protection, following the local authority policies and procedures. Annual training was in place for existing staff and this information was part of the induction programme for new members of staff and students who joined throughout the year. Clear, relevant information was displayed in a prominent place for parents and visitors to the nursery. This ensured all adults were aware of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe and the steps to follow if concerned about any child's health and wellbeing.

We sampled the storage of medication, the parental consent forms and the records of administration of medication forms. We noted that the service had added a column to the provider's administration of medication sheet to include a section for parental signatures. This now ensured parents were aware of the date and time any required medication had been administered to their child at nursery. This contributed towards children's health and safety.

What the service could do better

The main door to the children's toilets was wedged open throughout the session. This had the potential to spread infection and also had an impact on children's privacy and dignity when using the toilet. We advised the service to risk assess the toilet door to ensure children were able to open and close the door safely, as part of the updated risk assessment of this area.

(see recommendation 1)

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. The manager and nursery staff should review and update the risk assessment for the children's toilets. This would include ensuring the main door to the children's toilets was closed at all times to minimise the potential risk of infection and in order to maintain children's privacy and dignity. Further information and guidance can be found in 'Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Daycare and Childminding Settings)' and 'Space to Grow' documents. These documents can be found within 'The Hub' section of our website at www.careinspectorate.com

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state, I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice. (HSCS 4.11)

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	
31 May 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
8 Oct 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
14 Jan 2011	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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