Bonar Bridge Primary School Nursery (GM & EM)
Day Care of Children

Bonar Bridge Primary School
Bonar Bridge
Ardgay
IV24 3AP

Telephone: 01863 766221

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
24 May 2019

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Service no:
CS2003017175

About the service

This service has been registered since 2002.

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). Set up by 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.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

Bonar Bridge Primary School Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 25 children aged from three years to an age to attend primary school. For the last year the nursery children have been part of an early level class. The class is supported by a teacher and two early years practitioners. They have use of a large, refurbished classroom which includes their own toilet facilities and kitchen area. There is a varied outdoor space which includes an outdoor classroom, planting area, loose parts as well as the main school playground.

What people told us

All the children present during the session were observed as being very happy and relaxed in the care of the staff. There was a very good rapport between the children and staff which allowed for natural and open communication. The children enthusiastically told us about the various activities they enjoyed taking part in while at nursery. Being outdoors and playing with the various loose parts and open-ended resources were particularly popular.

During the inspection we spoke with 11 parents and carers, and three parents and carers gave us feedback through our questionnaires. They were all very positive in their comments about the quality of the service provided. Comments made included:

'The early years class is great.'

'I'm very happy with the service.'

'The outdoor space is lovely.'

'A wonderful and nurturing environment which provides a safe and stimulating place for my child to thrive and develop to the best of her ability.'

'Glad to see they are out so much.'

'A friendly, dedicated and hardworking team of teachers and early years practitioners who work relentlessly to give the children the very best start to their education journey.'

'Overall it is pretty good.'

'It's good that they take part in whole school activities.'

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 systems. These demonstrated the service priorities for development, detailing how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service, and a clear schedule for improvements.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

During this inspection, we focussed on how the service encouraged children to develop a healthy lifestyle. Connected to this we looked at the opportunities for outdoor play and learning, and promoting risk in play. We also looked at how the nursery supported the children's transitions to the primary school.

Since the previous inspection, the nursery had joined up with the P1 class to become an early level class. There was a class teacher and two early years practitioners in the class. Staff were of the opinion that being an early level class for the last academic year had been very successful and was very beneficial for all the children. The parents and carers we spoke with were equally positive about the benefits to the children of being part of an early level class. Everyone was hopeful that this arrangement would continue.

From our observations, it was evident that staff knew the individual needs of each of the children attending. Staff were very caring and nurturing in their approach. They were all very committed to providing a service of a high standard. The parents and carers were all very positive in their comments about the staff, their approachability and professionalism.

Encouraging the children to develop a healthy lifestyle was a priority. Staff had established good working relationships with other professionals to ensure that they were meeting the needs of the individual children in their care. The children learned about how healthy food is good for them, looking after their bodies and their teeth, taking part in physical exercise and energetic play, and keeping themselves and others safe. The service offered the children the opportunity to take part in various physical activities.

Since becoming an early level class, the service had moved into a refurbished room within the primary school building. The room was clean, bright and very welcoming. The children had access to a varied outdoor area which included an outdoor classroom, planting area, grassed area with various loose parts and open-ended

resources, as well as the main school playground. The service had continued to develop the outdoor space to encourage the children's imaginative play, problem solving and risk assessment skills. The staff were all enthusiastic about outdoor learning and how this element of the service could be expanded to enhance the children's learning and experiences. During the inspection, the children all enjoyed spending time outdoors playing both individually and in groups. The parents we spoke with were very happy that the children were actively encouraged to take part in various physical activities both in the outdoor play area as well as in the local community.

The manager and staff recognised the importance of risk and challenge in children's outdoor play. As a consequence, the children were being offered the opportunity to take part in activities which involved challenge, learning about risk and taking responsibility for their own safety and that of others.

There was a very good programme for transitions in place. Being a part of an early level class located within the school building was very advantageous. The children were already very familiar with the school layout, the older children, all the school staff and there were opportunities for the children to take part in whole school events. The parents we spoke with were all of the opinion that the programme for transitions was good.

What the service could do better

During the inspection, we looked at the personal plans in place for the children attending. Some of the personal plans were limited in their content. We reminded the manager and the staff of the importance of regularly reviewing, and where appropriate, updating personal plans and to include parents and carers in this process. Personal plans should also include the names and contact details for any other professionals involved with individual children.

We discussed with the manager and staff how they could continue to increase the range of loose parts and natural resources within the playroom and outdoors. We signposted them to relevant best practice documents and websites. We also suggested it might be beneficial for staff to visit other services to see their outdoor provision.

The children did not have access to a tap outdoors which impacted on some of their learning and investigative play as they did not have easy access to water. The installation of an outdoor tap would be extremely advantageous and greatly appreciated by both the children and the staff.

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	
23 May 2016	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good
18 Jun 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
2 Nov 2010	Announced	Care and support	6 - Excellent

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
16 Sep 2008	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good

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