Brora Primary School Nursery
Day Care of Children

Brora Primary School
Johnstone Place
Brora
KW9 6PF

Telephone: 01408 621441

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 12 June 2017

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Care service number:
CS2003017179

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

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

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.

Brora Primary School Nursery is located within the school premises of Brora Primary School in Sutherland. The nursery premises consist of two large playrooms, one with kitchen area, boys and girls' toilets and cloakroom area. The nursery children use the school gym on a regular basis for energetic physical play and also the pre-school play park and 'all-weather pitch'. There is also a school garden which the children visit.

Brora Primary School Nursery is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 20 children from the age of three years to those not yet attending primary school. The nursery is operated by Highland Council. The head teacher manages the nursery. The nursery operates term time only and is open five morning sessions.

What people told us

Throughout the inspection we spoke with the children individually and in groups. They were all very enthusiastic and wanted to tell us all the things they could do while at nursery. The children took part in a yoga session during the inspection which they all very much enjoyed.

During the inspection we spoke with seven parents, and five 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 staff in Brora Nursery are very welcoming. I know I can go to them about any concerns I have regarding my daughter."

"Thank you to all the staff at Brora Nursery for making my little girl's time there so enjoyable."

"Excellent nursery. Have highly recommended to other new parents to the village."

"All teachers very easy to talk to."

"They are very good at encouraging healthy lifestyles."

"I will be sad to stop coming to the nursery."

"It is a really good nursery."

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	4 - 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 outdoor facilities, 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.

Encouraging the children to develop a healthy lifestyle was an ongoing process within the nursery and included learning 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.

We observed a very lively and sociable snack. The children who were snack helpers were able to tell us about the various fruits and vegetables they were preparing and why their snack was healthy. Snack time was an opportunity for the children to try new foods and to take part in food tasting activities. The children told us about a recent activity about eating a 'rainbow of fruit and vegetables' and enthusiastically listed what coloured fruit and vegetables they had eaten the previous day at home. They also showed us the pie chart up on the wall which they had used to vote for their favourite fruit and vegetables at snack time.

All the staff attended child protection refresher courses on a regular basis and had a very good understanding of how to keep children safe. Staff were aware of the service's policies and procedures and what they should do if they had any concerns of a child protection nature. The children themselves attended Safe, Strong and Free sessions where they learnt how to keep themselves and others safe.

Outdoor play and learning was important. The nursery could access the school playground and a small enclosed play area which they shared with another child care provider. There was a school garden and planting area which

allowed the children to be actively involved in planting and growing various vegetables and flowers.

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.

Being part of the primary school, was very advantageous in relation to transitions. There were opportunities for the children to take part in whole school events and to get to know the school layout and meet the older children. The children told us about their buddies in P6 and how they had gone for lunch in the school canteen the previous week. The parents we spoke with were all of the opinion that the programme for transitions was very good.

What the service could do better

Although the staff knew each child well and their individual care needs, including any health, dietary or behavioural needs, these were not always clearly recorded in the child's personal plan. The service should ensure that there are fully completed written personal plans in place for each child which are routinely reviewed and updated.

The manager and staff highlighted having an outdoor play area for the sole use of the nursery children was a priority. We discussed with the staff how they could develop the current outdoor area and introduce more natural resources and learning and investigative opportunities for the children. We directed them to various guidance, articles and examples of best practice online. We also considered how they could continue to involve the children, parents and carers and the wider local community and businesses in the development of the outdoor area.

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.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
13 May 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good
13 May 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	2 - Weak 3 - Adequate 4 - Good 3 - Adequate
13 Nov 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 3 - Adequate
29 Sep 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good

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