Carrbridge Primary
Day Care of Children

Main Road
Carrbridge
PH23 3AF

Telephone: 01479 841812

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
13 February 2019

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Service no:
CS2003017185

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.

Carrbridge Primary School Nursery is a Day Care of Children registered for a maximum of 24 children per session, aged from three years to those not yet attending primary school. The service operates Monday to Friday from a large room adjoining the school building; a secure outdoor play area can be accessed directly from the playroom. Nursery children also have use of the playing field and gym and join in with the school assembly on a regular basis.

What people told us

The children present 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 all about the different things they enjoyed doing at nursery. Being outdoors was a particular favourite with all the children, especially break time when they routinely went out into the main playground with the whole school.

During the inspection we spoke with five parents, and three parents and carers gave us feedback through our questionnaires. They were all extremely positive in their comments about the quality of the service provided.

Comments made included:

'The children are out every day'.
'They get covered in mud which is great!'
'We are very satisfied with the level of care provided.'
'A very helpful friendly team. Our child really enjoys going.'
'Hats off to them (staff).'
'Staff are very good at giving feedback and sharing information.'
'There is loads of music and drama.'

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 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 primary school.

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 both very enthusiastic and committed to providing a service of a high standard. The parents and carers we spoke with during the inspection were all positive in their comments about the staff, their approachability and professionalism.

Encouraging the children to develop a healthy lifestyle was a priority both in the nursery and the primary school. 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.

During the inspection the children had a short gym session where they took part in a range of physical activities and games. The children all had lots of fun and spoke about how they could feel their hearts 'bumping' after a running game.

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. Prior to going outside the children were fully involved in completing a risk assessment.

The nursery made very good use of the garden surrounding the playroom which offered a rich learning environment. The garden contained a wide range of resources, including loose parts, which encouraged the children's imaginative play and learning. There was opportunities to take part in planting activities, investigative play, numeracy and literacy, a mud kitchen, as well as areas for quieter activities. During the inspection, the children had lots of exploring the ice which had been formed in various containers and sliding down the icy slide.

There was a very good programme for transitions in place. As a small primary school serving the local community, the nursery children tended to already know many of the children who attended the school. The

nursery children made introductory visits to the school as well as receiving visits from the primary one teacher and the children currently in the class. The nursery children and P1 children took part in joint activities including the active play initiative, music and trips. The nursery children went into the main school playground when it was break time. The children all loved the space and the opportunity to play with the older children.

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 incomplete and parents and carers had not been involved in filling them in. We reminded 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.

The service should ensure that they routinely review and update their policies and procedures to reflect current best practice.

We discussed with the manager and staff how they could make greater use of loose parts and natural resources within the playroom.

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 head teacher and staff ensure that good practice guidance is followed when managing medication, helping to ensure the wellbeing of the child.

National Care Standards, Early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and wellbeing

This recommendation was made on 22 March 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The manager and staff explained that they adhered to good practice and the medication policy and procedure drawn up by Highland Council.

At the time of the inspection there were no children requiring the administration of medication.

This recommendation had been fully met.

Recommendation 2

The head teacher and staff involve children more in roles and activities that promote their learning and awareness of safety with increased use of free flow play to enhance children's learning through outdoor play and exploration.

National Care Standards, Early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and wellbeing

This recommendation was made on 22 March 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Children were encouraged to be fully involved in risk assessment activities both within the playroom and in the outdoor play area.

This recommendation had been fully met.

Recommendation 3

The provider/head teacher and staff continue to update resources to incorporate more natural resources and evaluate the play space taking account of the views and interest of the children so that the children are challenged through exploration and curious play.

National Care Standards, Early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 5: Quality of experience and Standard 11: Access to resources.

This recommendation was made on 22 March 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
This recommendation had been met. The service had developed the outdoor play area and had introduced a very good range of loose parts to encourage the children's imaginative play and exploration of their environment. The service was proposing to introduce more loose parts within the playroom.

Recommendation 4

The head teacher and staff should make practical and effective use of Building the Ambition guidance following training.

National Care Standards, Early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 12: Confidence in staff and Standard 13: Improving the service

This recommendation was made on 22 March 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The staff and manager had put into practice ideas they had identified through training and good practice guidance, including Building the Ambition.

This recommendation had been met.

Recommendation 5

The head teacher and staff should continue to establish formal and effective, evaluation and monitoring systems that involve children, parents/carers and staff to support improved outcomes for children.

National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 13: Improving the Service and Standard 14: Well Managed Service.

This recommendation was made on 22 March 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation
The manager and staff welcomed and encouraged feedback from all relevant stakeholders, including the children and their parents and carers. This was confirmed by the parents and carers we spoke with.

This recommendation had been met.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
12 Feb 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
19 Mar 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 3 - Adequate
28 Feb 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good

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