Mayfield Nursery School
Day Care of Children

Stone Avenue
Mayfield
Dalkeith
EH22 5PB

Telephone: 0131 271 4720

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
11 June 2019

Service provided by:
Midlothian Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002602

Service no:
CS2003017293

About the service

Mayfield Nursery School, situated on a campus with Mayfield Primary School and St Luke's Primary school is registered to provide an early learning and childcare service to a maximum of 100 children aged 3 to those not yet attending primary school at any one time.

In consultation with staff, children and families, the service has recently updated their vision, values and aims to now read as:

'Our Vision
Learning through play - freedom to be me

Our values
Respect
Positive relationships
Nurture
Inclusion and equity
Learning through play
Community
Freedom with guidance

We aim to:

- Create an inclusive, nurturing community ethos, where all children and their families feel valued and supported and feel empowered to contribute.
- Provide high quality learning through play and first hand experiences, helping children to make connections in their learning.
- Support, challenge and extend children through play and quality interactions with adults.
- Provide a stimulating, flexible curriculum which promotes curiosity, creativity and encourages problem solving.
- Support children to develop their language and communication skills.
- Give children opportunities to lead their own play and learning and become motivated, successful learners.
- Provide an attractive, stimulating and flexible learning environment that promotes curiosity, discovery and creativity through open-ended resources.
- Support children's progress and celebrate and share their achievements.
- Ensure inclusion and equity we support the individual and varied needs of our children and families across the curriculum and within the community.
- Be a strong professional team which works together to achieve our shared vision in partnership with children, families and other professionals'.

What people told us

In preparation for the inspection, we sent 35 Care Standard Questionnaires for parents to complete. We received eight completed questionnaires. All respondents confirmed that overall they were happy with the service and that they felt confident that staff would protect their child from harm, abuse, bullying and neglect. Written comments were:

'Mayfield nursery staff are friendly and welcoming. They make me feel at ease especially around the worry of my child, in case she isn't well or if she is struggling. They always give great feedback. My daughter has learned so much and is getting ready for school'.

'Staff at Mayfield nursery school is very friendly and competent. My daughter looks forward to going into nursery every day. I am especially happy with the use of art and crafts to support kids learning. Our experiences of the nursery has been fantastic and I would definitely recommend it to others'.

'My son loves this nursery. Both he and I are really happy with it'.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to submit a self-assessment. There was an improvement plan in place that highlights the service's key priorities for improvement. We were confident that the service was very well led and that there was a highly reflective culture established that strived for continuous improvement.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

Mayfield nursery school staff had created a warm, welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, where children were seen to be very happy, comfortable and secure. There was a very nurturing and supportive ethos with great emphasis on respect for children and their families.

Children had strong and trusting relationships with staff who knew them well. As the importance of early intervention was recognised, children experienced care and support that reflected their needs. This meant that children received the right support and care at the right time.

With a particular focus on children's emotional well-being, strategies were in place to encourage children to be able talk about their feelings, identify emotions and make thoughtful choices. Furthermore, the use of various language programmes helped to enhance children's personal, emotional and social development in relation to communication and thinking skills. These positive and enabling approaches contributed to children reaching their potential and achieve.

Staff were child centred and clearly in tune with how children learned through patterns of repeated behaviour to explore and express developing ideas and thoughts through their play and exploration. They had ambition for children and supported them to be independent learners, engaging appropriately to add depth and extension to children's thinking, learning and creativity.

The flexible, free-flow sessions were organised in a manner that enabled children to make choices and develop their own interests. Children were well consulted and involved in planning and decision-making, with their ideas and suggestions acted upon by staff. They were busy and focused at play throughout our visit, where they were engaging in a range of activity both inside and outdoors.

Effective teamwork ensured that information and daily reflections were shared to support the smooth running and continuous development of the service. The recent expansion of the service had resulted in many new members to the staff team. Induction procedures for staff were robust, ensuring all staff were capable of embracing the ethos of the service.

Strong leadership within the service helped promote and foster staff's commitment and enthusiasm for providing good outcomes for children. The motivated staff team were involved in planning, implementing ideas and making improvements. This allowed them to build on their own leadership skills and support the development of the service and the very good outcomes for children.

What the service could do better

Moving forward, consideration should be given to enhancing children's experiences around mealtimes. For example, ways in which children can be routinely involved in the preparation of snack and how lunch time could be altered to ensure the routine was meeting all needs.

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	
3 Jun 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
15 May 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent
15 Jun 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent Not assessed Not assessed

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