Braidburn School
Day Care of Children

107 Oxgangs Road North
Oxgangs
Edinburgh
EH14 1ED

Telephone: 0131 312 2320

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 31 October 2017

Service provided by:
City of Edinburgh Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002576

Care service number:
CS2005105163

About the service

Braidburn Nursery is registered for 10 children aged two years six months to primary school age.

Braidburn Nursery class is situated within Braidburn School. The nursery has access to the gym, hydro pool, multi-sensory suite, and soft play area. There is an outdoor play area to the rear of the property with direct access from the playroom. The nursery is operated by the City of Edinburgh Council for children with complex additional support needs.

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

What people told us

Children were well cared for and respected by staff. They were exploring their environment and making choices.

Carers include parents, guardians and relatives. They do not include care staff. We sent out four Care Standards Questionnaires for distribution to people who use the service and one was returned to us.

The parent told us:

"Since my child moved into the nursery at Braidburn they have grown in confidence and ability. The staff are fantastic at keeping me informed and up to date with my child's progress. Braidburn offers my child excellent opportunities to engage in the community. They go to the local shops and visit a local care home. This is obviously mutually beneficial for the residents there. Having all the therapists in the one place is also excellent. My child loves to swim and being able to swim at nursery is great. The head teacher also sends out regular emails keeping us updated. The environment in general is positive and fun. It is a lovely place to be and they do a great job!"

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to submit a self-assessment in advance of this inspection. We looked at the services improvement plan. This demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service.

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

Braidburn Nursery provides a high quality service to children with complex medical and care needs. The established, professional staff team provided a warm, supportive and nurturing environment.

The principle teacher was skilled in leading and supporting the nursery team, who were all knowledgeable and respectful in working with the children. Children's experiences in the nursery and at home were enhanced through effective communication and partnership working. We saw children benefited from nursery staff working closely with the school's multi-disciplinary team to meet their individual needs. They provided valuable support to children in communication and movement programmes. A cohesive care plan was in place for each child and these were shared with their parents.

The staff demonstrated a very good working knowledge of the needs of the children attending daily and planned their care accordingly. They worked effectively to meet their needs and to ensure they enjoyed their nursery experience. We saw the staff took every opportunity to extend children's engagement whilst considering their environment, communication and physical abilities. All staff in the nursery were involved in observing children and recording their findings. Responsive planning was used to build on each child's interest. The staff regularly reflected on children's progress and they worked in a holistic way to engage children.

The service had worked hard to make improvements to the environment since the previous inspection. The nursery provided a welcoming, stimulating and child friendly space where children could feel happy and secure. There were many positive changes to the well organised playroom which promoted children's independence and choice. We observed a music activity, sensory story, soft play and swimming session. We saw the children were reacting positively and showed enjoyment through these experiences.

There were a wide range of facilities to support children's physical skills and wellbeing, these included a sensory room, soft play area and hydro pool. The nursery garden provided a safe space for children to play and explore freely. There were significant improvements in the garden to enhance children's experiences and to allow them to self select. These included more natural materials and loose parts play. We saw some children thoroughly enjoyed playing in the home area and mud kitchen.

Children had opportunities to go out in the local community. They visited a local care home to interact with the residents, walked to the local shops to purchase fruit and vegetables and visited the woods. Children were encouraged to think about road safety and keeping safe outdoors.

Children were supported to make choices for themselves through a variety of methods. For example, at snack and lunch time they were encouraged to choose directly from the real foods in front of them or from symbols. For activities and story-time children choose from a variety of items or object signifiers, photographs or symbols to indicate their favoured choice. Staff encouraged children to comment on their choices, by vocalisation or speech, gestures, facial expression or by choosing from a variety of symbols. Children were praised for their efforts and their successes were celebrated.

Partnership working with parents was promoted to encourage parents to be involved in their child's care and learning, through home visits, visits to the nursery class, whole school events and parents' evenings.

What the service could do better

The principle teacher was considering developing an 'improvement plan' for the nursery along with staff to outline their vision and key priority areas for development. We agree this would support further improvements. The nursery should include children and parents in this process.

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	
29 Oct 2015	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 4 - Good 5 - Very good 4 - Good
29 Oct 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 6 - Excellent

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