Mulbuie Nursery
Day Care of Children

Mulbuie Primary School
Mulbuie
Muir of Ord
IV6 7RB

Telephone: 01349 861289

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
20 November 2019

Service provided by:
Highland Council

Service provider number:
SP2003001693

Service no:
CS2007156816

About the service

This service has been registered since 13 September 2007.

Mulbuie Nursery is based within Mulbuie Primary School. It is situated in a rural Highland area on the Black Isle and is provided by Highland Council. The head teacher of Mulbuie Primary School manages the nursery with support from a principle teacher.

The service operates from a demountable unit in the grounds of the school. The internal areas of the nursery comprise of a secure entrance with cloakroom facilities, spacious nursery room for the three and four year olds and children's toilets. There is a fully enclosed outdoor area for the children to access along with a large accessible playfield.

The service has clear aims which are shared with families to promote children's development and learning. The aims included:
- To provide a happy, stable and caring environment
- To complement the experiences of home by building from the child's own knowledge and skills
- To ensure that the nursery is a welcoming place for parents and to encourage them in recognising that they have an important role in the education of their child
- To provide a wide and varied range of play experiences and activities in order to deliver a curriculum for excellence.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC), Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children, by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with the services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting It Right for Every Child; safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

There were seven children present on the morning of the 19 November 2019 and eight children on the morning of 20 November 2019. During the inspection, the children were all observed to be content and engaged within their play and learning.

We spoke to children throughout the inspection. Comments included:

"We had a fire for guy fox."
"Look the ice is melting."
"I will get the bike."
"It's cold - feel my hands."
"I want to go outside."
"I have my stuff ready."
"Look at my dogs."
"Oh look it's number 9."

We received five completed Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) from parents and carers. The five parents 'strongly agreed' with the statement 'Overall I am happy with the quality of care my child receives.'

Parents reported a good level of satisfaction with the service, the staff and the support their children received at the service. We spoke with two parents and carers during the inspection.

They commented that they were happy with the service provided. Comments from the CSQs and direct discussions included:

"Nursery is fine, my child enjoys it and information is shared."
"We receive good information, via newsletters, letters and face to face chats."
"My child is very happy attending the service and as a parent, I am happy too."
"We have found all the staff friendly and approachable."
"My child is very settled at the nursery. They get to go outdoors a lot which helps make my child happy."
"Staff at Mulbuie Nursery are warm, caring, compassionate and professional. My child is thriving and I am happy and confident with the care and education being delivered."

Self assessment

The nursery had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own quality assurance paperwork, including their improvement plan. These demonstrated the service priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of their provision.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

What the service does well

During the inspection we considered the quality of care and support. The evidence gathered during our inspection meant we evaluated this as very good. We also looked at the quality of management and leadership, which we evaluated as good.

We observed children to be happy, settled and confident with their surroundings, that supported the nurturing ethos within the nursery. We observed children to be supported by respectful, responsive and caring nursery staff. For example, staff were observed to be supporting children in their play and learning through engaging in meaningful conversations, participating in imaginary play and including children in the nursery routines and tasks. This contributed to supporting children's interests, ownership, development and learning.

Children had access to resources indoors and outdoors and were able to access them freely to develop, active learning and social interactions. Access to the outdoors was freely chosen. Children were supported to consider challenges and risks as they engaged in their play and learning. Activities and resources also included books, construction toys, natural objects, numeracy, arts and literacy resources. These allowed children to practice skills in negotiation, problem solving, support learning and decision making.

The nursery had established positive links with families, local nursery and specialist visitors. This supported improved outcomes, wellbeing and health needs for the children in their care. Parents and carers were also able

to take part in nursery routines. Sessions, such as stay and play, supported inclusive relationships for children and their families.

The staff we spoke to had good working knowledge of the nursery's child protection policy. We were satisfied they understood their responsibilities and the procedures to ensure children were protected.

The head teacher and principal teacher knew the nursery children and staff well. They understood the skills and experience of their staff. The team had developed a good working relationship and worked well together with a shared vision for the nursery. Staff highlighted how they felt valued and supported within their role by both the head teacher and principal teacher. Staff highlighted how they are included and regularly given opportunities to input into the planning of the nursery. This empowered the team to provide quality experiences, develop their own practice and feel included in the nursery developments.

What the service could do better

We reviewed the nursery medication systems and procedures. Whilst we found staff to know the children and their needs very well, the information held in children's files needed to be expanded and reviewed appropriately in line with best practice to keep updated with children's individual needs and conditions.

The management team should continue to carry out quality assurance and monitoring throughout the nursery. We discussed with the head teacher how systems could be developed to incorporate the monitoring of activities, spaces/areas, staff practice and key tasks. This would lead to improved recorded developments and key focus areas to be identified and best practice to be improved throughout the nursery.

During the inspection we were unable to see consistently recorded, reviewed and progression logs for all children. We discussed how observations and general recording could be developed to ensure these are significant. Evidence of children's voice, achievements and next steps should be developed. Next steps, where required, should be measurable, achievable and reviewed on a regular basis. This will ensure information relevant to each child's development and progress reflects their individual interests and continued learning.

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	
15 Jan 2018	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed
15 Jan 2016	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
22 Nov 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
14 Mar 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing	5 - Very good 4 - Good Not assessed

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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