

Lenzie Meadow Nursery Day Care of Children

Myrtle Avenue
Lenzie
Kirkintilloch
Glasgow
G66 4HW

Telephone: 0141 955 2299

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

13 June 2019

Service provided by:

East Dunbartonshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003003380

Service no:

CS2016348897

About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services can be found on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

Lenzie Meadow Nursery is provided by East Dunbartonshire Council. The service is registered by the Care Inspectorate to provide care to a maximum of 58 children, 48 aged three years to those not yet attending primary school and 10 aged two years up to the age of three years.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 16 August 2016.

The service is located in the nursery unit which is part of the newly built Lenzie Meadow Primary School in Lenzie. The nursery is very secure and consists of a spacious open plan playroom for children aged over three years with bifold doors accessing a large outdoor play space. The area immediately outside the playroom has a canopy to provide shade and shelter. There is a separate playroom for children aged two years also with bifold doors to the outside area. Younger children also have their own enclosed play space at the front of the nursery. Older children have use of the school playground when appropriate. Staff facilities, office space and a parents' room are provided.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach in inspecting care services for children.

The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It is a consistent way for people to work with all children and young people. The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people, and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it Right for Every Child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

In Scotland, the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach puts wellbeing at the very heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included, often referred to as 'SHANARRI'.

What people told us

We issued 35 Care Standards Questionnaires to the service to distribute to parents prior to the inspection taking place. We received 19 completed questionnaires. All responses from parents were positive. Written comments included:

"Overall an outstanding establishment with an incredible team running it. Could not recommend or commend them highly enough".

"The change in my child's development both physically, socially and educationally is phenomenal".

"Lenzie Meadow Nursery and its staff have done an exceptional job in caring for my child and also in communicating that with us. From day one I have felt my child is safe, secure and thoroughly supported with all his needs".

"Lenzie Meadow Nursery has provided an environment for my son to flourish. Members of staff go above and beyond to give the children a positive early years experience".

"This nursery is outstanding. Organisation and commitment to the child is exemplary. Staff all know my child so well and always communicate in a professional and friendly manner. The activities they participate in both inside and out are fun and educational. Staff are so knowledgeable and helpful with every situation".

"Lenzie Meadow is an excellent nursery with a welcoming, safe and stimulating learning environment. The staff are highly professional and have a lovely nurturing manner with the children. Through newsletters, e mails, online learning journals and daily communication with staff I am fully involved in what my son is learning and his progress".

"My daughter loves going to nursery and it's a joy to see the nursery teachers interacting with her. The staff communicate well with both me and my daughter's dad".

"My son is currently on dialysis every night and attends hospital regularly. He misses a lot of nursery but the nursery have been very accommodating. They are very welcoming when he returns and allow him to adapt and settle back in. We have regular formal/informal meetings about his requirements and staff are very understanding and diligent".

"I am delighted with the service and support that the nursery provide to my child. All the staff are friendly, supportive and encourage my child's development in a safe and secure environment".

"I have been more than happy with all the care, support and learning opportunities my child has experienced during the two years attending the nursery".

"A really great asset to the school. The nursery does not do many outings but have wonderful facilities for the kids. The staff are all welcoming and appear well able to look after and engage well with the kids. We are really happy with the service provided. Lunches aren't always the best but I appreciate this is at a higher level".

"Nursery staff were wonderful in ensuring my daughter trusted them, knowing she was safe and were so considerate of her sensitive nature. My daughter has flourished at Lenzie Meadow Nursery. It's a very warm and positive environment and every day I am met with happy, smiling staff and children".

We chatted with six children who told us all about their nursery. Three of the children showed us around the nursery and highlighted their favourite play areas. Children told us about their graduation ceremony planned for the following day. They told us they were sad to leave nursery to go to school. All children we spoke with enjoyed coming to nursery. They commented, "Tomorrow is graduation. Would you like to hear our graduation song?", "I'm going to drill this wood", "Let's roll the tyres and have a race".

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 paperwork. These 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	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

The quality of care and support for children in the service was excellent.

Care and support in the nursery was provided by very well trained staff who were caring, enthusiastic, skilled and experienced. Staff provided child centred, responsive care and children benefited greatly from this. We observed happy, confident children who had ownership of their nursery.

We saw that there was a focus on child led play with staff supporting children to lead their play, learn at their own pace and make choices and decisions. Staff provided a productive environment for children. We observed children actively engaged in a range of stimulating play experiences, facilitated by resources that promoted interest, creativity and problem solving.

Children enjoyed free flow, open-ended play using a range of loose parts and transient materials. They were mixing sand and water to lay bricks in the construction area and experimenting with water using a variety of pipes. Staff engaged very well with children using effective intervention strategies in accordance with their communication approach 'Building Blocks of Communication' to scaffold and extend learning.

Supporting children to transition was a key strength of the service. Younger children in the 2-3 room could choose to play in the 3-5 room and also in the outdoor area with friends and siblings. There was strong engagement with early level primary school through the 'Growing Up Project'. This initiative included a series of shared activities and events that helped children in their transition journey to school.

Information about children's learning and development was very well documented and was regularly shared with parents.

Personal plans for children demonstrated that staff had very good knowledge of children and their families.

There were six monthly reviews of children's personal plans with parents, exchange of information using children's learning journals, parent information board, regular newsletters and emails. Children's individual needs were extremely well addressed. The service had developed innovative 'Communication Passports' for children who required support with communication. This was a very useful tool for staff to readily access information about children's specific support needs.

Staff had a sound understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. A robust child protection policy and procedure was in place which informed and supported staff in their roles. Staff attended regular child protection training which kept them up-to-date with current best practice and refreshed their knowledge and understanding of child protection.

The service was very well managed. The manager, depute manager and staff were highly motivated, professional and informed. They were a very reflective, evaluative staff group who used the service improvement plan to inform their improvement journey. Rigorous monitoring and quality assurance processes, involving staff, parents and children, were used to evaluate service provision. There were lots of opportunities for staff to come together to discuss policy and practice. This resulted in a cohesive staff team who worked very well together to support children and their families. Staff had various leadership roles and were encouraged to engage in personal research and learning and keep up to date with best practice guidance.

Staff who completed staff questionnaires prior to the inspection taking place commented:

"I feel the nursery provide a good service and we have a great link with our school and families. Parents/carers are always involved and can attend events, stay and play or can come in as mystery readers. Staff and parents have very good relationships and I feel parents can approach us at any time".

"I love working at Lenzie Meadow Nursery and feel a valued member of staff. My senior and manager are very helpful and supportive towards me within the workplace and also with family circumstances. The staff team are all lovely and everyone works well together to provide the best learning opportunities for the children within our care".

"I absolutely love my job, the people I work with and the caring, understanding and dedicated management. We, as a staff team, have lovely bonds with the children and their families. The depute head of centre should be praised for her work ethic and genuine care for the staff, children and their families".

What the service could do better

The service should continue to drive forward the priorities identified in the service improvement plan, for example, health and wellbeing, forest kindergarten and loose parts play.

They should continue with plans to further develop staff leadership roles.

They should review the lunch experience for children in the 3-5 room as planned.

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
23 Jun 2017	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership
		6 - Excellent 6 - Excellent 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

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