

Westray Junior High School Nursery Day Care of Children

Pierowall
Westray
Orkney
KW17 2DH

Telephone: 01857 677353

Type of inspection:

Announced (short notice)

Completed on:

5 September 2019

Service provided by:

Orkney Islands Council

Service provider number:

SP2003001951

Service no:

CS2003016055

About the service

Westray Junior High School Nursery registered with the Care Inspectorate when it was formed in 2011. The nursery is an integral part of Westray Junior High School, a community school situated on the island of Westray. It is registered for up to 16 children aged 2 years to those not attending primary school.

The nursery room is large and bright with child-sized seating and storage, designed to encourage children to independently access toys and materials. Double doors give direct access to the enclosed outside play area, which had a hard-surfaced area for wheeled vehicles, construction and raised planting beds and a grassed area with bushes and den building. A shed gave storage space for outside equipment.

The aims of the service were to develop successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors, by:

- Sharing creative, challenging and enjoyable learning in a safe and supportive environment.
- Developing self awareness and an understanding of the needs of others.
- Being responsible and treating each other fairly.
- Celebrating the culture and quality of life in our island.
- Actively learning and working together as a community.

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. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators.

What people told us

For this inspection we received four Care Standards Questionnaires and we spoke to two parents/carers. Responses indicated that parents were very happy with the quality of care their children received. They told us the staff were brilliant and that it was a very homely and relaxed service. They felt staff knew their children's personalities and preferences well and planned activities that they enjoyed.

Their comments included:

"Staff are very open and welcoming. It's a very homely and relaxed service that my child enjoys attending."

"Very happy with the teachers. They have made sure my child is happy and they have been very good with them whilst in nursery. A big thank you to Mrs Rendall and Miss McCracken."

"The staff are flexible and understanding and are always ready to help and accommodate our child and their needs."

There were approximately eight children attending the service during inspection. The children were very happy and curious and enjoyed playing with the resources and activities on offer. Some children stayed for lunch and benefitted from joining the whole school in the dining room. They invited us to play their favourite games and were confident and happy throughout the session.

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 processes. 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	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

Warm and caring staff promoted a very positive ethos where everyone felt welcomed and included. Children were very comfortable and at ease with staff and clearly enjoyed being in nursery. Good relationships had been built between parents and staff and this contributed to good outcomes for children.

The nursery had recently increased their provision to more effectively meet the needs of the children and their families. This meant parents could choose a pattern of sessions to suit the needs of their child, including attending a full day session. Nurturing staff considered the needs of all the children and ensured they were happy, content and well looked after at all times. This included supporting the children at lunch and playing quieter and more relaxing games in the afternoon.

Staff had a very good knowledge of each child and how best to meet their needs. Children new to the service were supported to feel safe and secure and to follow nursery routines. Staff had worked very collaboratively with other agencies and parents to develop strategies to support children's physical and emotional development.

To help safeguard children, whole school child protection refresher training was planned. Staff were very aware of situations in the children's wider world which may impact on their health and wellbeing. Any concerns were recorded in chronologies and the relevant authorities contacted if necessary.

Effective systems were in place to support the safe administration of medication. We discussed reviewing the recording forms to ensure the information for each child was clearer and easier to find.

Children's preferences and interests were used to plan activities that the children enjoyed. Children's progress was recorded and shared with parents through both their learning profile and Seesaw app. This contributed to working together to help children achieve their full potential. We discussed ensuring that the observations of the children at play were more specific and individual to each child. This will support easier tracking of children's progress.

The refurbishment of the nursery playroom meant it was a fresh and welcoming environment. The use of wood and muted tones resulted in a calm and relaxing space for the children to play. Free choice and independent play were promoted through accessible resources and games. Some loose parts and natural materials contributed to developing the children's curiosity, imagination and creativity. The attractive role play corner supported children's literacy and numeracy skills, for example, they had created recipes and prepared vegetables to make soup. Some

children enjoyed building in the construction area using a variety of materials and measuring equipment. This supported their problem solving and numeracy skills as well as sharing and working together.

Direct access to the outdoor area promoted free flow play. Children were able to dig, plant and create dens in the grassy, natural garden area and play with some equipment that supported their physical development and creativity on the tarmac surface. This helped keep children fit and healthy and developed their confidence, self-esteem and understanding of the world around them.

The children were very familiar with the whole school environment and ate lunch in the dining hall alongside the older children. This very positive experience helped develop the children's confidence and supported their transition into primary one.

The nursery made good use of the local amenities and community resources. We accompanied the children on a visit to the local care home and chatted with the children's extended family. The residents, children and visitors enjoyed sharing stories and songs. This contributed to building a very supportive community where everyone felt included and valued, helping the children grow into confident individuals and responsible citizens.

What the service could do better

The nursery was separated from the rest of the school via a short corridor and double doors. At times, one practitioner supported the children, putting children at risk in the event of an accident. We advised the manager to complete a robust risk assessment with a clear plan of what to do in an emergency. This was done immediately after inspection.

The corridor and parents' area outside the playroom were accessed by the school children after break and lunch. This meant that at times the floor was muddy, slippery and unattractive. Some school outdoor toys were also stored in this area. To keep the nursery children safe and to welcome parents, we advised the manager to keep the area clean and uncluttered.

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
16 Jun 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 4 - Good
26 May 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good
22 Jan 2010	Announced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good
14 May 2008	Unannounced	Care and support 3 - Adequate Environment 4 - Good Staffing 3 - Adequate

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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