

Wellpark Children's Centre Day Care of Children

45 Mearns Street
Greenock
PA15 4BN

Telephone: 01475 715730

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 29 September 2016

Service provided by:
Inverclyde Council

Service provider number:
SP2003000212

Care service number:
CS2003034643

About the service

Wellpark Children's Centre is based in Mearns Street, Greenock. The service has sole use of the building which has two main playrooms and an outdoor play area.

This service has been registered since 01 April 2011, to provide care for: 15 children from two to three years, and 32 children three years to not yet attending primary school.

Aims of the service include:

Support for children and families: To maintain and provide links at home, nursery and school to promote learning and to support the needs of individual families.

Development and learning through play: To create opportunities for play both outdoor and indoor, to promote and support the child's development and learning, in order to stimulate interests and imagination.

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 27 children present at the time of the inspection. We observed the children enjoying their play. We noticed that the older children particularly enjoyed outdoor play and we joined them making dens and playing with "loose parts" in the garden. The playrooms were bright with lots of natural light and doors that lead to the garden areas. In the toddler room the staff had worked well with the space available to them and used the large outdoor play space regularly.

Staff celebrated children's achievements, took time to listen to them and gave them freedom to make their own choices. Children knew they had the right to select and choose what they wanted to. All of the children were actively involved in different age appropriate activities during the inspection. During our time at nursery the children were happy and settled, they were stimulated by the activities offered to them and were having fun.

The feedback we received from parents was positive. During the inspection we met with a group of five parents. They told us they loved the nursery. Staff were very supportive of them and their children. They felt their views about their children were listened to and they were respected. They told us their children were very settled at nursery and had developed strong relationships with the staff and other children. They enjoyed helping in the nursery and were keen to support the manager and the staff.

Before the inspection we sent out Care standards questionnaires to gather the views of parents. The questionnaires that were returned were very positive. Parents' comments included, "I am really happy with the service that the nursery provides for my children. They give me good support with them too so overall the nursery is great".

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment from the provider.

The provider identified what it thought the service did well and gave examples of improvements in developing personal care plans for children and developing the nursery outdoor areas. The self-assessment clearly identified some key areas that the provider believed could be improved and showed how the service intended to do this. The provider told us how the people who used the care service had taken part in the self-assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of their plans for improving 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

Staff knew children well and involved children, parents and agencies in planning for children's learning, development and support, which led to positive outcomes. Programmes were adapted to meet children's individual needs and set realistic targets.

Staff used a nurturing approach to sensitively and calmly welcome new children who were upset. Children who were familiar with the nursery confidently made choices about their learning, indoors and outdoors and were appropriately supported by staff to extend their learning.

Management and staff worked well with other agencies to protect children and keep them safe. We could see that regular training and reviews of child protection policy and practice ensured staff had the right skills and knowledge to protect children and that they were confident about their role and responsibility regarding this.

The environment for children indoors and outdoors was very good and provided lots of opportunities for active and meaningful learning. Structural changes that had been made to the nursery had a positive impact on outcomes for children in all age ranges. For example, there was easier access to nappy changing, toilets and sinks, meaning children were more settled and large glass doors provided plenty of natural light.

Outdoor activities provided children with opportunities to be healthy and active. Resources were well organised and accessible. Staff were responsive to children's interests and provided support where needed to ensure children were appropriately challenged. Children were becoming more confident, capable of assessing and managing risk and were developing physical skills.

What the service could do better

As part of the commitment to continuous development, good progress was being made on the priority to further involve children and their parents in planning for children's learning and development. For example, the development of children's online learning journals.

Outdoor learning was being evaluated to increase opportunities for children to independently access the area, which would provide children with more opportunities for self-directed play and would have a positive impact on their health, learning and development. We agree that these will build on the very good practice already evident and further improve outcomes for children.

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
2 Dec 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
16 Jan 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
31 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
20 Nov 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
8 Jan 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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