

Torrance Nursery Class Day Care of Children

West Road
Torrance
Glasgow
G64 4DE

Telephone: 0141 955 2229

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

8 November 2018

Service provided by:

East Dunbartonshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003003380

Service no:

CS2003014707

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

The service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Torrance Nursery Class is provided by East Dunbartonshire Council. The nursery is situated within the grounds of Torrance Primary School in Torrance.

The service provides sessional day care and is registered to provide early learning and childcare to a maximum of 40 children aged three years to those not yet attending primary school. Children are accommodated in purpose built premises within the school grounds. There is provision for outdoor play and children also have the use of school facilities for play.

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's 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 observed all of the children in the playrooms and outdoors during the inspection. Children were happy and settled. They engaged well in their play and interacted very positively with adults. Children who were playing outdoors commented, "I'm on top of the roof" (playhouse roof), "I'm in a boat chasing sharks", "I'm having a bath".

We issued ten care standards questionnaires to the service before the inspection to distribute to parents. We received seven completed questionnaires before the inspection and spoke with six parents over the course of the inspection. All responses and comments were very positive and commended staff in the service and the care and support their children received.

Comments included:

"My child and I feel very lucky to be part of this nursery. All staff are welcoming and friendly. They have a real 'buzz' about them. My son loves his time at nursery and gets excited by the warm welcome he receives every day. As a parent I find the staff very approachable and helpful. We find nursery a great safe place for my child to learn and explore in. He loves the choices he is given of toys, activities and snacks. Outdoor learning is really encouraged and he loves getting muddy in the outdoor kitchen. My child and I are often asked for our opinions,

ideas and thoughts. We both feel really involved and valued. We love looking at the online learning journals. It's great to see what fun he has when I'm not there".

"Our daughter is thriving at the nursery. The staff recognise her thirst for knowledge and encourage her to grow on her early learning journey. Topics are varied and inspire fun at home as well as in nursery. We look forward to our son joining this nursery in the future".

"I only have positive comments to convey relating to the nursery. Staff are wonderfully inviting, kind and always smiling. I have complete confidence that I am leaving my child in the care of a team of experienced, child centred teachers. My daughter is always singing a song which she learned, saying a new word she has been taught and all thanks to the Torrance nursery team. The new learning journal is a wonderful tool which I would love to see being rolled out across the school. Please keep up the amazing work and know that we value the focus and drive towards service excellence".

"Having visited many EDC early years establishments, working in my previous role, I consider Torrance nursery to be an excellent environment for my son to begin his early years education. Staff are warm, welcoming and very approachable. They have excellent relationships with children and parents. The rural environment is ideal and used often for outdoor learning/activities, for example, nature walks/forest kindergarten. I feel very informed as a parent - communication is regular and two way. There are opportunities to give feedback. The online learning journals are regularly updated and photographs/video shared with parents. Wonderful opportunity for parents/children to share and talk about together. My child and I cannot rate Torrance nursery highly enough".

"I can compare Torrance Nursery with two other private nurseries my son has attended and Torrance is by far the best. He has come on so much. He has developed, is happy and thriving. He simply loves it. I used to see nursery as 'childcare' but now I see it as so much more".

"Torrance nursery is proving to be a brilliant establishment that works hard to develop children's confidence. We have seen a huge change in our son since he started last October and he is now developing excellent social skills and communication skills. The staff work tirelessly to ensure children are happy, safe and included and are always communicating with parents both formally and informally. We couldn't be happier with the nursery and neither could our son".

"I am very happy with the standard of the service I receive. A very welcoming and nurturing nursery. My daughter who is shy in other places, bounces into nursery very confidently. This shows me she enjoys nursery. Whenever I have a concern, I find the staff very approachable and they genuinely listen to my concerns".

Parents we spoke with commented very positively on the staff, online learning journals, electronic newsletters and smooth settling in process for children.

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 management were monitoring the quality of provision within the service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

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

Care was provided by well trained staff who were skilled and experienced. There was a very positive inclusive ethos where children's and families contributions were valued and encouraged. The service engaged very well with parents, acknowledging their roles as key partners in their children's learning.

Very effective induction and transition processes were implemented and continued into early level in school. A buddy system was in place with older primary school children involved in storytelling in the nursery. There were strong home links with children's wider achievements being celebrated. Parents we spoke with told us they enjoyed using the learning journals to share children's learning, development and progress. Strong emphasis was placed on pastoral care and the health and wellbeing of children to ensure that their personal, social and emotional needs were met. These practices enabled staff to provide child centred, responsive care to children. Children benefitted greatly from this. There was a strong approach to nurture supported by 'Five to Thrive', an attachment - based approach to positive parenting.

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 Scottish Government Health and Social Care Standards were embedded in practice and effectively used as an evaluation tool to track and review progress.

The nursery environment had recently been reviewed as part of their accreditation as a Language and Communication Friendly Environment.

Staff worked together to support children to lead their play, learn at their own pace and make choices and decisions in accordance with best practice in early learning and childcare. They created an enabling environment with a focus on outdoor learning. There were plans to link nursery and primary 1 children in a joint outdoor project. We saw children enjoying a range of play experiences in the nursery garden, suitably clothed in new nursery puddle suits. They enjoyed loose parts play and activities and resources that promoted curiosity and investigation. They were very creative in using their imagination and working and learning as a team.

Children regularly visited forest school in the local area and were learning how to manage risk and keep safe. Children participated in active programmes, such as football and rugby, with visiting specialists.

'Parents engaged in the parent volunteer programme involving seasonal community walks with children, community links with Torrance Rocks, Forest Kindergarten, treasure hunts, woodwork and fundraising activities such as the Duck Race.'

We discussed daily free flow access for children to outdoors. Children had very good opportunities for outdoor learning but could not freely access this at their own pace. The manager told us that the local authority planned to carry out a refurbishment of the service to promote nurture and outdoor learning. We asked the manager to monitor and review this in accordance with Care Inspectorate best practice guidance, 'My World Outdoors'.

We noted that the service policy and procedure on medication was under review as part of the new service health plan for children. We asked the manager to ensure that this was reviewed in accordance with Care Inspectorate guidance, 'Management of medication in daycare of children and childminding settings'. (See recommendation 1)

Overall, children enjoyed a very high standard of care and support within a positive, nurturing environment.

What the service could do better

The service should continue to drive forward the priorities identified in the service improvement plan.

They should address the recommendation recorded in this report in relation to medication policy and procedure.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. The manager and staff should review the service policy and procedure on administration of medication in accordance with Care Inspectorate guidance, 'Management of medication in daycare of children and childminding services'.

Health and Social Care Standards 4.11 - 'I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice'.

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
26 Nov 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 6 - Excellent
28 Nov 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
17 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 5 - Very good

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