

Mounties Community Nursery Day Care of Children

Mount Cameron Primary School
Blacklaw Drive, St Leonards
East Kilbride
Glasgow
G74 2EX

Telephone: 01355 249636

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 21 June 2017

Service provided by:
Mounties Community Nursery

Service provider number:
SP2003001523

Care service number:
CS2003006690

About the service

This service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 1 April 2011. It is registered to provide daycare for a maximum of twenty-four children aged from three years until they start primary school. Nineteen children were present during this inspection. The nursery provides morning and afternoon sessions and is flexible in the way they provide the six hundred annual hours care and education for each child. Some children attend all day and others attend five half day sessions. We asked the manager to review the hours stated on the certificate of registration to ensure these met the needs of the service currently being provided.

The nursery is provided from Mount Cameron Primary School in the St Leonards area of East Kilbride. The nursery has sole use of one playroom which has a kitchen area and storage, and shared use of a meeting room and the school gym hall. The outdoor area which can be accessed directly from the playroom is also shared with the local authority nursery provided within the school and this arrangement works well.

The nursery is provided by a voluntary management committee made up of parents using the service. A manager and two early years staff plan and provide the day-to-day care and education for children. The nursery is in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council to provide pre-school education for children. The service aims to "Provide a welcoming, safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment in which the individual needs of each child and family are supported with respect to gender, culture, language, disability and where each child feels secure, protected, happy and valued."

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 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, often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators.

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection which took place on 21 June 2017.

We looked at how staff provided support for all children, including the completion of personal plans and staff training and motivation.

What people told us

We spoke with most children during our visit. We also spoke with two parents including a member of the voluntary committee. We received eleven care standards questionnaires, six of which contained additional comments about the service.

Overall, parents were happy with the service. They indicated that they were confident that staff regularly assessed their child's learning and development and encouraged their child to form positive relationships with their peers. They were confident that staff had the skills and experience to care for their child, and that they included their child in making decisions about how they spent their time in nursery. Parents also indicated that staff had involved them and their child in developing the service.

Additional comments from parents included:

"My children have loved coming here. Staff are lovely and there's lots of learning."

"I am extremely happy with my choice of Mounties Nursery for my child. The nursery is well-managed and I feel comfortable that my child is very well looked after. The children are offered opportunities to become involved in

an extremely wide variety of activities. They are also consulted and involved in decision-making regarding topics etc."

"My child has had the best experience at Mounties. It is such a nurturing environment to learn in. The teachers are fantastic and look after the children's needs to the highest level. I wouldn't pick any other nursery."

"The ladies have provided a first class service for us. They go over and above their jobs to do this. My child loves going and has developed and learnt so much in the past 14 months and is ready for school in August. Thanks to the ladies. We will be so sad to leave."

"The staff have been very understanding and helpful with my child. Since starting nursery they have done everything they can to encourage (his development) which has made huge progress."

"Mounties is a fantastic pre-school nursery which I would highly recommend. My child has developed a great deal since starting there last August. A credit to the staff."

"We've had a great year. This nursery runs like clockwork and staff are all about the individual child. They're so nurturing and treat children as individuals. Topics are responsive. For example, one day children were talking about what they wanted to be when they grew up, and by the end of the day staff had made a display with children's comments. This meant we didn't miss out. There was also a visit to the Gurdwara. It was amazing. Again, this was in response to comments from children. I was lucky enough to accompany the nursery that day as a helper and everyone had a fantastic day. Children were so excited. All staff are very approachable and the kids are so proud of their folders."

Some parents gave us examples of how staff had supported their child individually and said that this support had been effective.

Children were confident and happy at nursery. They were excited that there was a visitor and eager to share what they enjoyed about nursery. They talked about their learning, and showed us around the nursery resources. Children's comments included, "I've been learning about numbers and I can do my letters. I'm excited about going to school. I can write my name." "It's good fun coming to nursery."

A group of four children organised some chairs to sit and talk to us about what happened in nursery. Their comments included:

"We're going to school. We've been learning about mini beasts. See a butterfly? It can fly 3000 miles and we learned about bees. There's a star bucket. We work really hard and when we get 10 stars we get a prize. I know some letters. I can write my name. We come into nursery and first we do the register, then we decide what we want to do, then we listen for the tidy up music, then we have snack, then when some children go home we stay for lunch."

Children were busy throughout the day and clearly enjoyed their time at nursery.

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. This included asking parents to complete monitoring visits in the nursery, looking at specific aspects. For example, some parents had recently evaluated how well children's profiles worked and concluded that these contained information they would want to remember in years to come. Improvement plans included establishing a forest school approach after staff had identified and completed training on the subject.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

Staff had created a warm, nurturing and inviting ethos for children. We saw that children were confident and becoming independent. They were managing conflict well and were learning negotiating skills which helped them share and build friendships. Staff encouraged a high level of involvement from children. Children were consulted throughout our time in nursery about resources and activities, and we saw that formally through group time with their key worker, children had been consulted about topics and their learning. Children enjoyed learning new skills and information and were happy to share this with us.

Children's personal plans reflected that staff knew children well and that they worked with parents to agree next steps in learning. These clearly set out how children had progressed throughout their time at nursery. Several home links were in place, and opportunities for parents to make significant changes to the nursery were frequent. For example, the nursery was provided by a voluntary committee made up of parents, and the newsletters and Facebook page invited comments and suggestions. Children were proud of their "profiles" and wanted to share the contents with us. Staff made very good use of their interactions with children to help them reflect on their learning. They encouraged children to problem solve and we saw that children confidently approached new experiences.

The very good team work meant that planning and tracking was consistent and that staff made very good use of training and research to make improvements in the nursery. Staff were aware of current guidance and had started to evaluate their service using How Good Is Our Early Learning and Childcare. They had recently completed training on Building the Ambition and had made changes in the nursery that they were confident had impacted positively on outcomes for children. Staff felt supported and were confident in taking leadership roles in the nursery. Since the last inspection, there had been more opportunities for staff to visit other nurseries to share their own practice and widen their experience.

The nursery continued to make improvements and aimed to provide quality outcomes for all children. They had appointed an equality coordinator and had started to reflect the Rights of the Child within the GIRFEC and SHANARRI displays. Children could confidently challenge decisions and clearly felt safe and protected in the nursery environment.

What the service could do better

Some information in personal plans and floorbooks did not include a date which made it more difficult to measure impacts and improvements. The manager and staff agreed to address this.

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
20 May 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
8 Jun 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
25 Oct 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 3 - Adequate

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.