

Cramond Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

Cramond Crescent
Edinburgh
EH4 6PG

Telephone: 0131 3126450

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 14 June 2017

Service provided by:
City of Edinburgh Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002576

Care service number:
CS2003015849

About the service

Cramond Primary School Nursery is located within Cramond Primary School in the North West of Edinburgh. Children have access to a large playroom, with kitchen facilities, a large garden with adjoining woodland area. They also have access to the school gym hall, library and an additional multi-purpose play room.

They are registered to care for a maximum of 50 children at any one time aged from three years to entry into primary school.

The aims of the service are to:

- 'Be child centred
- Acknowledge children's views and actively involve children in meaningful ways in everyday decisions.
- Offer a nurturing and caring environment.
- Provide appropriate spaces to play and learn with a range of possibilities for children to develop their present and future potential.
- Be responsive to children's changeable interests and demands'.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure that they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives.

We check that services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by the Scottish Government GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for all children and young people - and what they can do to improve. GIRFEC is being woven into all policy, procedure, strategy and legislation that affect young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are also known as the SHANARRI indicators. We use the indicators at inspection to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

What people told us

Before the inspection took place we sent out 26 care standard questionnaires. Seventeen were completed and sent back to us. In addition we spoke to a sample of parents as they collected their child at the end of the session. In both these sources, parents showed complete satisfaction with the service provided. In particular, they were complimentary of the staff team, commenting that:

- 'The teachers are excellent and very supportive of both the children and the parents.
- ' The staff are caring to both us and our child and are there by email, telephone or in person if we ever need to talk.
- 'Staff have been excellent with my son and helping him reach his potential'.
- 'The staff seem to change a lot. Would be better if there was more stability in this area'.
- 'Good parent/teacher relationships to support the child and overcome problems together and work out strategies'.
- 'Excellent nursery with enthusiastic, interested and interesting staff'.
- 'The staff are excellent, pleasant and always seem to care deeply for all the children
- 'The staff team are hugely passionate about constantly improving.

Other notable comments were regarding the care and support and learning experience:

- 'I always find they provide a varied range of activities and are always busy learning. I'm extremely happy with the service'.
- 'I have been extremely impressed with this nursery. It has performed above my expectations and my daughter is very happy here. I feel confident leaving my daughter in such a secure and happy environment'.
- 'I could not be happier with the nursery. The children are exposed to a wide range of activities and in particular I am most impressed with the new outdoor garden making a valuable addition to the great play area outside'.
- 'Very happy with the care my child receives'.
- 'I was very impressed at how a sleep problem at home was discussed at a team meeting and followed up with myself promptly offering ways forward. Rewards for my child helped too'.
- 'Good communication of educational activities undertaken and their assessments of our children's progress. My child is very happy at nursery and I'm pleased he has had such a good start in the schooling process. Thank you'.

The service agreed to reflect upon comments made by parents in which they felt the nursery could be improved:

- 'It would be nice if the children went out on trips - shops, pony park, feed ducks at Cramond, outdoor learning done at the beach/woods'.
- 'My only negative reply was regarding space. I feel there are too many children in the nursery wish isn't something the staff can control'.
- 'My only criticism would be a slight lack of toys/colouring pens on display to play with/use. However my child is overall extremely happy at nursery'.
- 'Staffing seems to be an ongoing issue but it never seems to impact on my son and the learning journals are a great way of sharing his learning'.
- 'Outings to places in the community could be a good addition'.

Self assessment

The service has 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	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

The experienced, qualified and reflective staff team were confident in describing the care and support needs of the children and how they met their individual developmental needs. Information contained in written observations, plans and other records confirmed this. Plans for experiences and outcomes demonstrated staffs responsiveness to individual children's needs and supported the involvement of children in their own learning. Children related well to staff and it was apparent that supportive and caring attachments had been formed. Staff

were ambitious for children encouraging perseverance and celebrating success.

Staff's understanding of the key documents supporting their practice, along with a wide range of training opportunities, helped them to create a calm and purposeful child centred learning environment. This, coupled with easily accessible high quality resources supported children's play allowing them to be independent and self-directed .

Being able to move freely between the indoor and outdoor environments allowed children to be self motivated in their play and in developing decision making skills which supported their general wellbeing. The newly established 'Butterfly garden' provided children with a wealth of activities and experiences that offered endless possibilities through investigation of natural materials as well as loose parts play.

The service had been effective in encouraging parental involvement in the day-to-day life of the service. The benefits of this were apparent in the quality of relationships with families and in supporting children's transitions into the nursery and on to primary school.

Children were proud of their nursery, many were eager to show us their favourite activities. They had ownership of the nursery because it reflected their interests.

We saw clear evidence that staff understood their responsibility for meeting children's general care and support needs. Children with additional needs were supported sensitively by staff. Staff worked closely with parents and specialist agencies to ensure that children were given an inclusive, positive and supportive pre school experience.

The management team provided strong and ambitious leadership to the committed staff team. We saw a clear shared vision and a determination to provide care that put children at the centre which ensured their needs, choices and wishes were met. As a result we observed practice that was of a consistently high standard.

What the service could do better

Moving forward, the service should continue to sustain and further develop the very good practice found at this inspection.

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	
29 Aug 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
24 Aug 2011	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
20 Mar 2009		Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

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