

# Blackwood Primary School Nursery Class Day Care of Children

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Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 28 September 2017

**Service provided by:**  
South Lanarkshire Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003003481

**Care service number:**  
CS2003015274

## About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Blackwood Primary School Nursery Class is a local authority day care of children service. It is located within the Blackwood Primary School campus. The service is located in close proximity to local amenities, including shops, and bus routes. The nursery is registered to provide a day care of children service to a maximum of 60 children aged 3 years and not yet attending primary school.

South Lanarkshire Council is the provider of the service. The primary school head teacher has overall responsibility for the management of the nursery. The principal teacher, nursery teacher and early years staff plan and provide the day-to-day care for the children.

The nursery accommodation consists of an entrance hall, office, disabled toilet, one large playroom divided into different play areas and adjoining children's toilets with nappy changing facilities. There is direct access to a large enclosed outdoor play area and access to various areas within the school building.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. We check services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by 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 children and young people - and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of 'Getting It Right For Every Child'. They are: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

## What people told us

During our inspection approximately 39 children were present in the morning session and 20 in the afternoon session. We spoke with some children who were eager to tell us about their time in the nursery. The children told us they enjoyed playing with their friends and that they liked going outdoors to play. We observed the children enjoy taking part in a range of very good quality indoor and outdoor activities.

Throughout this report, any reference to 'parents' also includes carers and guardians.

Prior to inspection, we sent 20 care standards questionnaires to the manager to distribute to parents using the service. We received 8 completed questionnaires prior to this inspection. All of the respondents to our questionnaire agreed that they were happy with the quality of care provided by the service.

Comments they wrote included:

"The staff at Blackwood are amazing, the care and support offered by staff is amazing. There is always a huge variety of activities offered and lots of outdoor play."

"The nursery is a very caring environment where children and adults are made to feel welcome. There is a wide range of activities for the children to participate in and they always enjoy exploring new learning."

"My child loves learning in the outdoors and he thoroughly enjoyed growing vegetables in the nursery garden (onions) and bringing them home."

"This is my second child at Blackwood nursery and we could not be happier with our child's progress. We know she is safe and happy and every single member of staff goes above and beyond to get to know the kids and make them feel like they are special and important."

In addition, we discussed areas of concern three parents highlighted in the care standards questionnaires. In particular these concerns were around information sharing and staff training. The principal teacher told us that she will discuss our findings with the head teacher.

On the day of inspection, we spoke with eight parents. They all spoke very highly about the nursery. Comments they made included:

"Staff are really nice and friendly, I'm delighted."

"Staff are all great, the support for my child is very good."

"They are good at letting us know what is happening. I have had opportunities to be involved and attend sessions in the nursery, I really enjoyed the Book Bug session the 'Gruffalo' was great."

## 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.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

<b>Quality of care and support</b>	5 - Very Good
<b>Quality of environment</b>	5 - Very Good
<b>Quality of staffing</b>	not assessed
<b>Quality of management and leadership</b>	not assessed

## What the service does well

We found that staff were skilled in developing relationships with children and parents/carers. Children were being nurtured in an inclusive environment where their achievements were recognised and celebrated.

Staff recognised where individual children would benefit from additional support or challenge, and the learning topics in the nursery were appropriately planned to ensure children's needs were being met. Good relationships were in place between staff and external agencies, for example speech and language which meant that staff were able to work in close partnership to ensure children got the right support at the right time.

Integration of the nursery within the wider community was very good. For example, the children had benefitted from taking part in work with the National Art Galleries and nursery involvement in the local flower show encouraged children to play an active role in their community. The nursery is currently undertaking 'Our Villages' where local visitors are invited along to talk with the children about their role in the community. This allowed the children many opportunities to become familiar and learn about the wider world around them. For example, the local chemist had spoken to children about staying safe around medicines.

The children benefitted from access to a large outdoor play space. The staff told us of their plans to develop this space. We discussed with staff the opportunity to provide a setting that would include open-ended resources that encouraged the children in sensory play, exploratory play and creativity.

On the day of inspection a group of children took part in the forest school intuitive. The children were able to experience nature and explore the changing seasons whilst having opportunities to benefit from learning about risk.

We found that the service had been maintained to be clean and well organised. Effective health and safety procedures were seen, including appropriate use of daily risk assessment checks.

Overall, staff had created an environment where an ethos of inclusion and respect was evident. We saw how children were encouraged to be considerate and play fairly with others. We saw that the staff knew the children well, were responsive and provided support, encouragement and, when needed, reassurance.

## What the service could do better

During our inspection we sampled children's personal care plans. We found that recordings were clear and detailed children's progress within the service. However, we found that some dates were missing. We discussed this with the management team at feedback and asked them to ensure that dates are added.

We sampled the services medication policy and procedures. We felt that the service had considered how they would manage children's medication. However, we identified a gap in the medication recording form. The principal teacher has told us that she will amend the form.

We have advised the service that food allergen information as per the Food Standards Agency guidance should be implemented. In addition, the allergen information for the children's snack menu should be available for parents to view. (See recommendation 1).

We asked the management team to expand their audit records for accidents and incidents to include any patterns identified and any actions taken.

During this inspection, our observations highlighted that some areas of infection control practice did not reflect the current best practice. We shared our observations with the management team and have asked them to undertake a review of the infection control procedures and to make changes identified. (See recommendation 2).

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. Blackwood Primary School Nursery should ensure that food allergen information is provided as advised by the Food Standards Agency guidance.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 2: A safe environment.

2. Blackwood Primary School Nursery Class should provide appropriate resources in line with current guidance Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and well being.

## Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
17 Nov 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
1 May 2012	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good
22 Apr 2009		Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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