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Haugh Of Urr Nursery Day Care of Children

Hardgate Primary School Haugh of Urr Castle Douglas DG7 3LD

Telephone: 07788 688800

Type of inspection: Unannounced Inspection completed on: 9 November 2017

Service provided by: Haugh Of Urr Nursery

Care service number: CS2003011725 Service provider number: SP2003002754



About the service

Haugh of Urr Nursery is provided by a voluntary committee and is situated in the campus of Hardgate Primary School.

The nursery is registered to provide day care to a maximum of 26 children aged two years to those not yet attending primary school, of whom no more than five children are aged two to under three years at any one time.

Occasional use of Haugh of Urr Village Hall.

Haugh of Urr Nursery has a large playroom in a purpose-built building with secure outdoor space.

The aims of the service include:

To provide a safe and secure play and learning environment to develop positive relationships, foster potential and increase independence, self-esteem and confidence in preparation for life.
To provide a wide range of earning activities and experiences within a mixed age setting based on the early level stage of the Curriculum for Excellence and Pre-Birth to Three.
To encourage independence and freedom of choice.

What people told us

Before the inspection visit we sent eight parental questionnaires to the service to distribute on our behalf. Seven were returned before we went. The responses were positive and comments included:

"My child is very happy at this nursery as were all his brothers, such a happy healthy nursery full of great staff and lots of fun and learning for all the children"

"Excellent nursery with an excellent standard of care to the children as individuals. My son absolutely loves going to nursery and would go every day if he could"

"Excellent new facility"

"My daughter's nursery is the best place for her. She is growing and developing into a confident smart comfortable and loving child. This is thanks to all the staff. I do not have a negative word to say about the staff or the nursery itself"

"I can't speak highly enough of the nursery and it's staff. The staff are friendly, professional and great with the children. My son has been very happy and I feel his learning and support was very individually tailored and they got to know him, his strengths and areas for development very well. Very varied activities, try to get them outside as much as possible and the woodland area is great. Lovely topics they cover and include parents on.they've now moved to a fantastic new building with more space. I've been very pleased with all aspects of the nursery and how its run"

"I wouldn't want to send my child anywhere else. Fantastic nursery with brilliant staff. She looks forward to going every week"

We spoke with children during the inspection and observed them at play. We found they were confident, happy, engaged in their learning and having fun. Children told us they liked to be at nursery and that the outdoors was their favourite place to play.

Comments included:

"I'm a handy helper-I make the snack and help people" "This is my favourite C.D., come and hear me singing" "My favourite thing is the climbing wall-I can see that big tree over there"

Self assessment

We did not ask services providing day care to submit a self assessment. We looked at the progress of the service and its priorities for improvement. We were satisfied with the documents we saw.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

What the service does well

Key strengths of Haugh of Urr nursery were the committed staff team who provided very good support for all the children attending. They gave the health, wellbeing and safety needs of each child a very high priority, using effective personal plans. The personal plans were used in partnership with parents and carers and clearly showed how individual support was provided to each child.

Children were happy, confident and independent, responded well to staff and enjoyed taking responsibility for jobs around the nursery. Staff were skilled at listening to what children had to say and we saw that they respected their opinions and acted on their views. For example, staff offered a child who expressed interest in volcanoes a fun activity to develop their learning and understanding. Children's folders of their work were well organised. Staff were tracking their progress through effective observations and used 'next steps' to support them to achieve to their highest potential.

Children were enjoying the activities provided for them. We saw them work on fine motor skills and staff were encouraging and supportive to help them achieve success. We used a pilot of an observational system to gather more specific information about children's experiences. The Short Observational Framework for Inspection, (S.O.F.I.). Our finding showed that staff were very sensitive to individual children and their needs. We saw very good care offered to children.

The staff team worked well together, they knew each others strengths and made time to meet to plan for improvements. The manager had developed very good systems to plan and assess for the needs of children. They used the principles and wellbeing indicators of 'Getting it Right For Every Child' and were including the language of the wellbeing indicators into everyday experiences and activities. Children could tell us how they kept safe and were responsible.

The management and staff were following the aims of the nursery to meet children's needs. They knew where they wanted to make improvements which they had identified using best practice. Staff attended training and used their learning to good effect.

What the service could do better

Staff were continuing to develop the curriculum to provide challenging activities and experiences. They were confident that their planning would support improvements.

Staff should now look to further develop children's independence and include them in the risk:benefit approach for outdoor play.

We asked that staff develop the opportunities for children to identify their own learning and next steps.

The outdoor area was still being developed into a space which would offer a range of challenging and interesting play and learning experiences. Staff had started to use the 'Loose Parts Play Toolkit' to help them do this. We asked that they include additional materials to extend the experience.

The introduction of a staff induction form would support the work of relief staff.

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	Туре	Gradings	
15 Dec 2015	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good

Inspection report

Date	Туре	Gradings	
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
10 Jan 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
19 Apr 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good
21 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
8 Mar 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed
23 Feb 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good

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