

24 October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

In May 2017 a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate visited Treetops Too. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager/head of setting and staff. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and children's success and achievements.

The inspection team found the following strengths in the setting's work:

- Happy, settled children who enjoy their time at nursery.
- Caring practitioners who have developed strong, positive relationships with children and families.
- Recently developed self-evaluation processes which have had a positive impact on children's learning.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager/head of setting and a representative from North Ayrshire Council:

- Continue to develop further skilful questioning and interactions to extend and deepen children's learning.
- Continue to develop approaches to planning, observing and tracking children's learning to ensure sufficient depth and challenge is offered. This will help children make the very best progress they are capable of.
- The management team should implement formal monitoring strategies to ensure that children are fully engaged and motivated in their time at the setting.
- All practitioners should participate in a coherent professional learning programme on current effective practice in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children.

Quality indicators help early learning and childcare settings, education authorities and inspectors to judge what is good and what needs to be improved in the work of the setting. You can find these quality indicators in the publication *How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?*¹. This information informs Scottish Government policy for early learning and childcare.

Here are Education Scotland’s evaluations for Treetops Too.

Leadership of change	satisfactory
Learning, teaching and assessment	satisfactory
Securing children’s progress	satisfactory
Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	satisfactory

Here are the Care Inspectorate gradings for the setting

Quality of care and support	adequate
Quality of environment	good
Quality of staffing	adequate
Quality of management and leadership	adequate

Requirements/recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the setting:

During the previous Care Inspectorate inspection, the setting had four recommendations. From these, all four recommendations have been met. As a result of this inspection, there is one requirement and five recommendations.

1. *How good is our Early Learning and Childcare?* 2016 – [How good is our early learning and childcare?](#)

Requirement:

The provider must ensure staff have training opportunities that are linked to individual children's support needs and should include but not be limited to:

- Child Development
- Curriculum For Excellence
- Pre-birth to three
- Leadership training courses as appropriate

This is in order to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210), regulation 4(1)(a). Timescale for meeting this Requirement: Six months from receipt of this report.

Recommendations:

- Personal plans and planning for children's learning and development should include information that is meaningful, reflective of their needs and have planned next steps to achieve.
NCS 5 Early Education and Learning up to the age of 16 – Quality of experience
- The provider should consider resources such as double/triple buggies for staff in the baby room to allow them to take children out in the local community.
NCS 5 Early Education and Learning up to the age of 16 – Quality of experience
- The provider should consider ways to encourage exploration, imagination and physical development for younger children to access outdoors.
NCS 5 Early Education and Learning up to the age of 16 – Quality of experience
- The changing area for the baby room should be reviewed by the provider so that it is clean, pleasant and safe for children and staff to use.
NCS 2 Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 – A Safe Environment
- The provider should monitor and assess the impact of having a peripatetic manager.
NCS 14 Early Education and Learning up to the age of 16 – Well-managed service

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate website at <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/north-ayrshire/8213518> and <http://www.careinspectorate.com/>

What happens next?

We are confident that the setting has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. North Ayrshire Council will inform parents/carers about the setting's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its settings.

A notification from the Care Inspectorate will be sent to the Provider to complete an action plan to address any Requirements and Recommendations made as a result of this inspection.

Dr Noreen Phillips
HM Inspector

Isabella Semple
Care Inspector

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