

2 May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

In February 2017, a team of inspectors from Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate visited Brookland Nursery. During our visit, we talked to parents/carers and worked closely with the manager and practitioners. We gathered evidence to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and children's successes and achievements.

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

- Confident, motivated children who are making good progress in their learning and enjoy their time at Brookland Nursery.
- Positive and enthusiastic leadership from the manager who provides support and direction to practitioners in order to continue to improve outcomes for all children.
- A team of practitioners who work well together, are caring and supportive of children and families and are keen to improve their practice through professional learning.

The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the manager and a representative from West Dunbartonshire Council:

- Continue to develop practitioners' understanding of child development and early learning pedagogy to ensure all children experience high quality learning. Particular attention should be paid to developing practitioners' professional judgement about children's learning and progress.
- Develop approaches to self-evaluation and monitoring across the setting with a clearer focus on learning. Practitioners' use of national practice documents to support reflection and development should be enhanced.
- Continue to review and refresh the learning environment both indoors and outdoors to maximise the potential of learning for all children. More effective use should be made of the outdoor environment to support children's learning across the curriculum.

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 Brookland Nursery

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

Here are the Care Inspectorate gradings for the setting

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

Recommendations made by Care Inspectorate for the setting:

- Staff should make sure each child’s development plan includes up-to-date information and details of how the development needs of the child are being supported, assessed and reviewed.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:
Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

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

- The manager and staff should use good practice to guide them in the continued development of children's outdoor learning experiences.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:
Standard 5: Quality of experience and Standard 2: A safe environment.
My World Outdoors hub.careinspectorate.com
- Risk assessments should fully identify any potential risks and detail how these will be addressed.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:
Standard 2: A safe environment.
- The management team should continue to monitor and look at ways to improve children's personal plans, children's outdoor play experiences, risk assessments and cleaning arrangements. This will help improve outcomes for children.
National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:
Standard 14: Well-managed service.

The letter and more detailed summarised inspection findings will be available on the Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate website at

<https://www.education.gov.scot/reports/west-dunbartonshire/8316112> and

<http://www.scswis.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. West Dunbartonshire 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.

Louise Easton
HM Inspector

Morag Kelly
Care Inspector

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Education Scotland

Denholm House
Almondvale Business Park
Almondvale Way
Livingston EH54 6GA

T +44 (0)131 244 4330
E enquiries@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

www.education.gov.scot

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