

Inspection of Tynewater Primary School Nursery Class

Report by Mary Smith, Director, Education, Communities and Economy

1 Purpose of Report

This report outlines the outcome of the above unannounced inspection as carried out by the Care Inspectorate in November 2013.

2 Background

2.1 The Care Inspectorate is the independent scrutiny and improvement body for care and children's services and they inspect every registered care service, local authority social work departments and child protection teams on a regular basis to make sure that providers are meeting standards required and are working to improve the quality of care for everyone. Every time they inspect these services they produce an inspection report.

2.2 Tynewater Primary School Nursery Class is registered to care for 20 children aged 3 years to entry into primary school.

2.3 Based on the findings of this inspection the Care Inspectorate awarded the following grades:

Quality of Care and Support	Grade 4 –Good
Quality of Environment	Grade 4 –Good
Quality of Staffing	Grade 4 –Good
Quality of Management and Leadership	Grade 4 –Good

The report and grades represent the Care Inspectorate assessment of the quality of the areas of performance which were examined during the unannounced inspection.

2.4 The Inspection Team noted the following strengths:

- Tynewater Primary School Nursery provides a caring and supportive environment where children can explore and learn through play.
- The staff team work hard to ensure that families are given a warm welcome into the service.
- Staff are aware of the needs of the children and in particular those with additional support needs.

2.5 The Inspection Team also noted that the new staff team should continue to work together and support each other which will help them to focus on good outcomes for all children in their care and work to meet the recommendations made at the inspection.

- 2.6 The Care Inspectorate concluded that the nursery provides a caring and supportive learning environment for children.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

3.2 Risk

The Care Inspectorate regulate all care services in Scotland using the [National Care Standards](#), set out by the Scottish Government, as a benchmark for how each type of service should perform. These standards are the minimum that children and young people should expect when using care services.

If the standards are not being fully met, the Care Inspectorate would note this in the inspection report and require the service manager to address these. The Care Inspectorate could impose an additional condition on the service's registration if the provider persistently, substantially or seriously fails to meet the standards or breaches a regulation. They also have the power to issue an improvement notice detailing the required improvement to be made and the timescale for this.

Monitoring, review and evaluation of progress by officers in Children and Families is the control measure in place to reduce the risk of failure of the care services and to demonstrate their capacity to improve.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☒ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☐ None of the above

3.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Performance and outcomes will continue to be measured through the monitoring, review and evaluation process.

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The Nursery will continue to improve its work in line with its improvement plan and the Education, Communities and Economy Directorate will continue to challenge and support the Nursery in relation to developing and implementing a range of quality improvement strategies.

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

As part of their inspection process the Care Inspectorate sent out 7 questionnaires to the service to give to parents and carers who used the Nursery. Five completed questionnaires were returned. The contents of the questionnaires were used to inform the Care Inspectorate findings and are referred to in the Inspection Report.

The Inspectors also met with parents and carers during the course of the inspection.

Copies of the report have been made available to Elected Members, parents/carers of children in the Centre, staff and other interested parties.

3.7 Ensuring Equalities

An action plan has been prepared to address the areas for improvement recommended in the report. The action plan will be screened for equalities implications.

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

The Centre Improvement Plan allows for sustainable development and improvement.

3.9 IT Issues

There are no IT issues arising from this report.

5 Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) note the content of the inspection report;
- (ii) pass this report to the Performance, Review and Scrutiny Committee for its consideration;
- (iii) note that, whilst acknowledging the good work being carried out at the nursery, the Council will continue to challenge, support and monitor the service in relation to achieving sustained excellence through further improving performance.

12 February 2014

Report Contact:

Lorraine Brown Tel No 0131 271 3718

Background Papers:

Care Service Inspection Report dated 11 November 2013

