

# West Barns Primary School Nursery Day Care of Children

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West Barns  
Dunbar  
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Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 21 February 2018

**Service provided by:**  
East Lothian Council

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003002600

**Care service number:**  
CS2003016997

## About the service

We visited the service on Wednesday 21 February 2018 to carry out an unannounced inspection. We spoke with staff and children present during the inspection. Feedback was provided to the head teacher.

West Barns Primary School Nursery is registered to care for a maximum of 20 children per session aged between three years and those not yet attending primary school. The nursery is open during term time from 8.45am to 11.55am. The provider is East Lothian Council.

The nursery is situated in an annexe within the grounds of West Barns Primary School in Dunbar. It has its own entrance hall, toilets and enclosed garden for the children to participate in more active play.

The aims and objectives of the nursery include the following:

To create a secure, calm and happy atmosphere.

To provide a stimulating environment, new learning experiences and to cater for individual needs.

To help each child to socialise with other children from all cultural backgrounds.

To welcome and integrate children with special needs.

To foster self-esteem, self-confidence, independence and good communication skills.

To build friendly relationships with parents, build trust, share and discuss problems and involve parents in the life of the school.

To develop ourselves professionally as a team.

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

The children were settled and happy at the service. Most were content with the activities on offer. We found that they used the environment to engage in creative and imaginative play.

We sent out four care standards questionnaires and one was completed prior to the inspection.

Parents were happy with the service provided.

## 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:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	4 - Good
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

## Quality of care and support

### Findings from the inspection

Parents and carers were made very welcome and were able to discuss any issues at drop off or pick up times. This led to positive outcomes for children.

We saw that most children were happy, confident and independent who were involved in a range of play activities. Children sought staffs support as required. Children's success was recognised and celebrated. Staff applied the wellbeing indicators of (SHANARRI) from the national framework 'getting it right for every child', and incorporated the language of the wellbeing indicators into everyday activities and experiences.

Snack was observed to give the children the opportunity to socialise with their friends. Children's independence was promoted as they helped themselves to food and a drink. Children helped to choose the food for the following week's snack.

Within children's learning journey's we saw that staff recorded observations about children's development, identifying next steps to support their progress. Photographs were included to show activities children were participating in. As an area for improvement we have asked the service to share these with the children. This would allow children to reflect and revisit their learning.

Staff knew the needs of the children well and worked very well with other professionals. Personal plans with strategies to support children with additional support needs had been introduced. However we have asked that staff develop the strategies further and evaluate any progress made. This will help meet the individual needs of the children and identify where further support may be required.

The routine of the day was adult led and although children were comfortable, their play was sometimes interrupted. We also observed that some children were asked to sit for more than 30 minutes before home time. Most children were bored and this led to them becoming disruptive. We asked that staff review the routine of the day and keep interruptions to a minimum. This would give children to fully explore the resources and learning opportunities on offer. We will follow this up at the next inspection.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

Staff had worked hard on the layout of the nursery room. Although space was limited staff ensured they provided children with core resources. There were opportunities for children to make their own decisions about the activities they wished to follow. Equipment and resources were stored in a way that enabled children to have free access to activities of their choice.

We saw that children had free flow access between the nursery and garden. Children enjoyed energetic play activities and they could explore their natural environment, which promoted their health and wellbeing. Encouraging outdoor and risky play benefitted children as it ensured children remained healthy and developed an understanding of how to stay safe.

The nursery should continue to develop the loose parts within the nursery and outdoor area. Providing more of these type of resources would support children to develop their creativity and enquiry. Staff should not limit children's play and learning by setting the resources out for them. This would allow children the freedom to choose, experiment, work together and explore these resources themselves to supporting their own learning.

The teacher confirmed discussions were already underway with East Lothian Council regarding alterations to their toilet area. Consideration had been given to where a changing unit could be situated and a privacy screen added. Once in place this would improve the dignity and respect for the children. This will be followed up at the next inspection.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## Quality of staffing

## Findings from the inspection

At the time of inspection the service did not have a permanent nursery practitioner in place. However, a supply practitioner had been working in the service since January 2018. This led to some consistency within the staff team. We saw that staff were caring towards the children.

Regular team meeting allowed staff time together to discuss children's learning needs, play resources and any improvements. Staff told us they felt part of the whole school and the nursery teacher attended meetings and any relevant curriculum events.

Staff had read good practice guidance that included "Setting the table" and "My world outdoors". The nursery teacher had attended training since the last inspection. Staff were aware of the impact their training had on outcomes for children attending the nursery. They had visited other settings to share experience and ideas. We discussed the Care Inspectorate "Hub" and how staff could access a range of best practice documents and resources aimed at supporting improvements. Staff were enthusiastic and keen to use good practice in order to continue to improve outcomes for the children.

Staff had reviewed their behaviour management policy. The nursery teacher told us that she had researched best practice in behaviour management before developing the policy. We have asked that staff promote positive and inclusive strategies and include a restorative approach to manage behaviour. These strategies should be clearly documented in the children's personal plans. As previously mentioned staff should review the routine of the day to ensure children do not become bored and disruptive.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 0

**Grade:** 4 - good

## Quality of management and leadership

### Findings from the inspection

The service had been supported by the local authority to work through their improvement plan. Attention had been paid to planning, room layout and resources on offer. Staff told us they found this useful.

The nursery was included in the schools improvement plan and staff were clear on the priorities for the year. Areas for development and previous recommendations from The Care Inspectorate had been used effectively to create a nursery improvement plan.

Staff were willing to support the improvement of the service and promote good outcomes for children.

The head teacher should continue to ensure that staff have informal and formal opportunities to discuss their practice and any pertinent issues. This would ensure that training could be sourced to support staffs professional and personal development whilst considering the changing needs of the children in their care. The head teacher's involvement in the life of the nursery helped to monitor the quality of the setting.

The head teacher had already identified most of the areas for improvements and staff welcomed our feedback. We were confident that the service would work together to improve outcomes for children.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

## Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

## What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

## Previous recommendations

### Recommendation 1

The provider should ensure that appropriate nappy changing facilities are available, that they are kept hygienically clean and that children have suitable resources to promote their health and safety. National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 2: A Safe Environment.

**This recommendation was made on 17 February 2017.**

### Action taken on previous recommendation

Plans were in place to alter the bathroom area to make room for a changing unit and privacy screen. This recommendation has been met, however we have asked the service to notify us when the work is completed.

## 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).

## Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
7 Feb 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 3 - Adequate Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
5 Mar 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good
18 Nov 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
19 Mar 2009	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good

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