

# Kilcoy Kindergarten Day Care of Children

Kilcoy  
Muir of Ord  
IV6 7SF

Telephone: 01349 864804

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 12 September 2016

**Service provided by:**  
Kilcoy Kindergarten

**Service provider number:**  
SP2005007587

**Care service number:**  
CS2004070969

## About the service

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

This service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

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.

Kilcoy Kindergarten is located in a rural location near to the village of Tore. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children aged from three years up to primary school age (12 years) of whom no more than eight are of primary school age at any one time. The premises are on one level, comprising of a reception/cloakroom area, three interconnecting playroom areas which were used flexibly, toilet facilities, kitchen, staffroom and office.

The aims of the service are to work in partnership with parents, providing a safe childcare service which promotes children's development and provides them with opportunities to mix with and relate to their peers. The service is expanding the outdoor facilities and children have the opportunity to spend much of their day outdoors either in the play area directly accessible from the playrooms, a 'secret garden' or in a large woodland area a short walk from the nursery.

## What people told us

Throughout the inspection we spoke with the children individually and in groups. They were all very enthusiastic and wanted to tell us all the things they had done at nursery. Several of the children were very proud of photographs displayed on the wall which showed them taking part in a range of outdoor activities. During the outdoor session in the woods, the children confidently told us what the potential risks were and what we should do to keep ourselves safe.

During the inspection we spoke with three parents and fourteen parents and carers gave us feedback through our questionnaires. They were all extremely positive in their comments about the quality of the service provided. The parents we spoke with all commented on how much their children enjoyed being outdoors for so much of the day and their regular visits to the woods. Similar comments were made by parents and carers in the completed questionnaires. One parent commented how "the range of activities and outings that they provide are excellent and varied and provide my child with knowledge of the outside world which is invaluable."

Other comments included: "There is a strong focus on outdoor play at Kilcoy which my child loves. This was the main appeal for me in choosing this nursery". "Kilcoy is a nurturing environment with a strong emphasis on outdoor learning."

## Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a self assessment document from the provider. We were satisfied with the way the provider completed this and with the relevant information included for each heading that we grade services under.

The provider identified what it thought the service did well, some areas for development and any changes it had planned. The provider told us how the people who used the care service had taken part in the self assessment process.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

<b>Quality of care and support</b>	6 - Excellent
<b>Quality of environment</b>	6 - Excellent
<b>Quality of staffing</b>	not assessed
<b>Quality of management and leadership</b>	not assessed

## What the service does well

At this inspection, we looked at how the service encouraged children to develop a healthy lifestyle and the opportunities for outdoor play and learning. Connected to this we looked at the outdoor facilities and promoting risk in play. We found that the nursery was providing an excellent service to the children.

Encouraging the children to develop a healthy lifestyle was an on-going process within the nursery and included learning about how healthy food is good for them, looking after their bodies and their teeth, taking part in physical exercise and energetic play, and keeping themselves and others safe while outdoors.

At snack time, the children were encouraged to try new healthy foods. We talked with the children as they helped to prepare fruit salad. They told us how the fruit was healthy even though it was sweet. They talked about the shapes and colours of the different fruits and told us which were their favourites.

Outdoor play and learning was a priority for the nursery. One member of staff, who was completing a forest schools qualification, was taking the lead in developing this provision. The staff were all enthusiastic about how this element of the service could be expanded to enrich the children's learning and experiences.

The manager and staff fully recognised the importance of risk and challenge in children's outdoor play. As a consequence, the children were being offered greater opportunity to take part in activities which involved challenge, learning about risk and taking responsibility for their own safety and that of others. The role of the staff was more to supervise and offer support when required.

The playroom opened directly onto an exciting and fun outdoor space which the children could access throughout the day. As well as various play activities, there was a greenhouse and planting area which allowed the children to be actively involved in planting and growing various vegetables, herbs and fruit. The children

enthusiastically told us about the different things they had successfully grown and then eaten.

During the inspection, we observed a group of children taking part in a session outdoors in the woods. This was an extremely popular activity for the children and the staff. While getting ready to go, the children explained to us what the basic rules were and why they had them, for example "you shouldn't touch the fire", "you can't go passed the sign without an adult" and "we wait to make sure everyone is over the bridge". The children were able to tell us about the many different adventures they had had in the woods from lighting a fire, toasting crumpets, mixing bread dough and cooking it on sticks over the fire, picking fruit which was safe to eat to going on bug hunts, building dens and climbing trees. On the day of the inspection, the children toasted popcorn over a fire which they had helped to light. During the activity the children learnt a great deal about how to stay safe around fires.

As well as spending much of their day outdoors in the fresh air and taking part in various activities which included physical exercise, the children were also taken to swimming lessons. The nursery had arranged for all the children to attend a six week block of swimming lessons which was very much appreciated by parents and carers. The staff was able to tell us how the children's confidence had grown since starting the lessons.

## What the service could do better

The manager and staff were all very enthusiastic and committed to the on-going development of the service. They actively welcomed feedback and suggestions as to how they might improve.

We discussed with the service how they were proposing to continue to develop the outdoor learning experience for children. The manager explained that the staff member who was taking a lead on outdoor learning was already sharing what she had learnt during her forest school training with the other staff. The service would continue to access relevant training in outdoor play.

During feedback, we discussed with the manager and pre-school supervisor how they could access various guidance, articles and examples of best practice on-line.

## 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](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
24 May 2013	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
9 Jun 2010	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
19 Nov 2009	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
23 May 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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