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telephone: 0345 600 9527  
email: [enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)  
Twitter: @careinspect

Chief Executive: **Peter Macleod**  
Chair: **Paul Edie**

18 January 2021

Miss Jordan Palmer  
7 Saline Street  
Airdrie  
ML6 9BE

Our reference: CS2010238277

Dear Miss Jordan Palmer

## **Care Inspectorate Self-Evaluation - Stepping Stones Nursery School**

Thank you for returning the completed self-evaluation of Key Question 5 for your service.

We have had the opportunity to review the document and following our discussion with the provider on 14 January 2021, please see below our assessment of the information provided.

### **Quality Indicator 5.1: Children's health and wellbeing are supported and safeguarded during the Covid-19 Pandemic.**

The evaluation provided sufficient evidence to show how children are being nurtured and supported through their changed experiences within the setting. The service has worked hard to ensure meaningful communications with families throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. They put effective systems in place to ensure families were kept informed about safety measures and change to procedures.

To welcome children back into the service, settling in visits were organised and personal plans were written for each child to ensure they provided the right care and support to meet their needs, focusing on wellbeing.

The service had made changes to the environment before reopening. These changes have had a positive impact on the children's opportunities to play, learn and have fun. Children have been able to access the outdoor areas with ease, play with their favourite resources and continue to play with friends.

The evidence shows the importance has been placed on communication with families to enable responsive support for individual children's health and wellbeing. The service

developed the use of technology to share information with families. The service is using a app based resource to undertake most communications. Parents have found this to be very useful throughout this pandemic.

The staff team have worked hard to ensure they have been kept well informed about children's needs and changes in their lives. Through sharing information through the app, staff and families are planning together to ensure children receive the care and support needed.

### **Quality Indicator 5.2: Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff.**

The evaluation provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate how national guidance has informed infection prevention and control practices and procedures to provide a safe environment and protect children. The services robust risk assessment and safety measures keep children safe without hindering their opportunities to play, learn and have fun. The service have quality assurance measures in place to ensure the safety measures are being followed and are effective. The service demonstrated they were proactive in addressing areas for improvement, if identified.

### **Quality Indicator 5.3: Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during Covid-19.**

The evaluation provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate how staffing arrangements are responsive to meet the needs of children and families. Staffing levels have been maintained and additional staff have been employed to support the service meet the needs of the children. The staffing levels have supported the service reduce children's contacts within the service. Children are being cared for in small groups by designated staff.

The evaluation provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate how you are measuring the impact that training and support has on staff confidence to provide the service during covid-19. Staff have continued to keep up their skills and knowledge throughout the pandemic. The management have been supporting staff identify and undertake training to meet their needs. Systems are in place to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of staff training and ensure it is having a positive impact on the children's experiences.

Where further developments are required.

Please consider the above information to enable you to further develop the measures you have in place to support children's health and wellbeing during this time. Self-evaluation is central to continuous improvement. It enables you to reflect on what you are doing so you can know what you do well and identify what you need to do better. Our resource, 'Self-Evaluation for improvement - your guide' provides further information to support effective self-evaluation.

[https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/Self\\_evaluation\\_for\\_improvement\\_-\\_your\\_guide.pdf](https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/Self_evaluation_for_improvement_-_your_guide.pdf)

We would ask that you keep your self-evaluation under review and ensure that it reflects the provision in your service. We may require a further submission of your self-evaluation in the future. Where we undertake any further scrutiny of your service, we will take your self-evaluation into account.

Yours sincerely

Kara Doonan  
Inspector