



**REPORT TO: EDUCATION, CHILDREN'S AND LEISURE SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON 9 MARCH 2022**

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION REPORT: SINGLETON INSPECTIONS OF EARLY
LEARNING AND CHILDCARE CENTRES – PUBLISHED
REPORTS DECEMBER 2021 TO FEBRUARY 2022**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND
ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of the content of singleton inspection reports of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) centres by Care Inspectorate which were published between December 2021 and February 2022. These were;

VIP Childcare, Elgin
Earthtime Elgin Forest School Nursery
Magic Roundabout, Elgin
Liberty Kids, Elgin

1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (D) (1) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to exercising the functions of the Council as an Education Authority.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Care Inspectorate carries out inspections of care services, including day care of children's services. Providers are inspected against a Framework of Quality Themes and statements and the National Standard.

2.2 The Care Inspectorate resumed face to face ELC scrutiny in Autumn 2021 after COVID-19 restrictions impacted on their work.

2.3 The four services noted are the first in Moray to have reports finalised and published.

2.4 Care Inspectorate Officers will grade services and publish these grades as part of their duty to provide information to the public about the quality of care services.

The six point grading scale:

6 excellent

- 5 very good
- 4 good
- 3 adequate
- 2 weak
- 1 unsatisfactory

2.5 Following publication, inspection reports are available through ELC centres and online at www.careinspectorate.com.

2.6 The education authority will give guidance and support, as appropriate, to both school nursery classes and partner providers of ELC education. Following a Singleton Inspection the ELC centre is asked to prepare an action plan indicating how they will address the main findings of the report, and to share the plan with parents and carers.

2.7 During this reporting period there were 4 Singleton Inspection reports received.

Name of Early Learning and Childcare Provider	Date of Inspection
VIP Childcare, Elgin	3 September 2021
Earthtime Elgin Forest School Nursery	22 September 2021
Magic Roundabout, Elgin	3 November 2021
Liberty Kids, Elgin	9 December 2021

2.8 The Gradings, Recommendations and Requirements arising from the reports are summarised in Appendix 1.

2.9 All services received grades 4 or above which means they are meeting the [National Standard](#). These services continue to work in partnership with Moray Council and have access to the Early Years Teaching Team alongside their respective Continuous Improvement Officer.

3. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

This report relates the priority ‘Provide a sustainable education service aiming for excellence’ from the Corporate Plan and to ‘Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray’ from the LOIP.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Care Inspectorate inspects all registered services regulated under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, which includes nursery classes and playgroups.

The authority has a duty to provide a quality early learning and childcare place for every 3 and 4 year old whose parents wish it and for eligible 2 year olds.

(c) Financial implications

None arising directly from the report.

- (d) Risk Implications**
None arising directly from the report.
- (e) Staffing Implications**
None arising directly from the report.
- (f) Property**
None arising directly from the report.
- (g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**
An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as this report is to inform Committee on performance.
- (h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**
None arising directly from the report.
- (i) Consultations**
Head of Education (Chief Education Officer), Continuous Improvement Officer (West), Continuous Improvement Officer (East) and Principal Teacher Early Years Education Service and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report as regards their respective responsibilities.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 That the Committee scrutinise and note the contents of this report.

Author of Report: Hazel Sly, Early Years Service Manager

Background Papers:

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/berengCareservices/html/reports/getPdfBlob.php?id=309996>

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/berengCareservices/html/reports/getPdfBlob.php?id=309979>

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/berengCareservices/html/reports/getPdfBlob.php?id=310259>

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/berengCareservices/html/reports/getPdfBlob.php?id=310617>

Ref:

SPMAN-1315769894-258 / SPMAN-1315769894-259