

Darfield Children's Centre

Darfield All Saints Childrens Centre, School Street, Darfield, BARNSLEY, South Yorkshire, S73 9EU



Inspection date

20 January 2015

Previous inspection date

16 December 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Assessment of children's development is meticulous and sharply focused. It is closely monitored by the management team and used to secure timely interventions and support, based on a comprehensive knowledge of each child's progress.
- Children are extremely motivated and very eager to learn. The exceptional focus on helping them to acquire communication and language skills, and on supporting their personal, social and emotional development, helps all children make rapid improvement in their learning with any gaps closing rapidly.
- Highly successful strategies engage all parents in their children's learning in the nursery and at home. This means children's needs are quickly identified and exceptionally well met through highly effective partnerships with parents, external agencies and other providers.
- Children's safety and protection is central to the nursery's practice and staff very effectively support children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- The pursuit of excellence in all of the nursery's activities is facilitated by an uncompromising and highly successful drive to improve achievement for all children over a sustained period of time.
- All staff are constantly improving their high-quality teaching skills through a sharply focused programme of professional development that ensures they have superb understanding and practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- encourage practitioners to consider whether children need their nappy changing at times when they are engaged in activities, so that children's concentration is not broken by routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and out.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the nursery deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

All staff have excellent partnerships with parents and other professionals to support and promote each child's learning needs through a shared approach. Planning and assessment has significantly improved and is precise and sharply focused to target children's learning needs. Parents receive superb levels of support in guiding their child's learning at home, ensuring every child makes rapid progress. Staff have increased their understanding of children's learning and teaching to provide an excellent range of learning opportunities. Children now attain essential skills to support their future development; for example, language and communication development is supported through the skilful use of props. Children's independent play is exceptionally well supported by staff. Young children's interest in imaginative play is fully promoted through the creative use of large chiffon sheets. Children develop key skills for future learning, asking questions and solving problems, which ensures they are very well prepared for moving on to school. Children benefit from extended periods of uninterrupted play but, on occasions, staff take children away from activities to have their nappy changed and this breaks their concentration.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

All staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They implement policies and safe working practices exceptionally well to support children's health, safety and well-being. Managers conduct home visits where they meet children and gather information about them and their families. Staffing arrangements are consistent so parents and children are very familiar with their key person, who makes sure children are welcomed into the nursery each day. New children settle quickly as staff support them extremely well, helping them to build strong relationships with adults and children. Daily care practices, such as toileting, are carried out by the key person, which supports children's emotional security well. Staff are extremely good role models and play alongside children, helping them to be kind, share and take turns. This helps children to form strong attachments with peers. Management of behaviour is superb and staff help children to quickly understand what behaviour is acceptable.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Highly successful arrangements for staff recruitment, regular supervision and monitoring of staff performance have significantly raised the overall level of quality within the nursery. Since the last inspection, the management team have rigorously scrutinised assessment information and increased the drive for improvement. This has been achieved through meticulous self-evaluation by the management team and staff and through sharply focused action plans. There have been major improvements in assessing children's progress and giving both parents and children a stronger say in what needs to change. The nursery now has a very effective team of staff, managers and other professionals who share high expectations and a commitment to delivering outstanding care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409396
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	962889
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	70
Name of provider	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Date of previous inspection	16 December 2013
Telephone number	01226753366

Darfield Children's Centre first registered in 2006 and is managed by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. It operates from one large room and there is an outside area for outdoor play. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm all year round, excluding bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Of the 19 staff who work at the nursery, 18 hold relevant qualifications to level 2, 3 and 4. In addition the manager has a degree in early years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

