

# Once Upon A Time Nursery School

170 Wroxham Road, Norwich, NR7 8DE



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 February 2015

15 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the nursery is outstanding. Staff provide an exceptional range of high-quality activities that promote learning effectively both inside and outdoors. Consequently, children are enthusiastic, active learners who are keen to explore and investigate independently.
- Staff demonstrate skilful use of vocabulary and use open-ended questions to develop and extend children's understanding, listening and speaking skills. They model and scaffold language extremely well, so that all children are very confident communicators.
- Children form exceptional relationships with the staff who care for them. This means children's individual needs are met very well and children form strong attachments with staff.
- Staff fully understand their role in safeguarding children. They provide a high quality nursery that is welcoming, safe and stimulating.
- Excellent partnerships between parents and the nursery staff ensure that parents are well-informed about their child's developmental progress. The nursery listens to and acts on the views of parents.
- The nursery's leadership team is highly effective in driving improvement. All staff have the highest expectations and are committed to achieving excellence in all areas.
- Very strong relationships exist between the nursery and other professionals, ensuring that all children are prepared extremely well for transferring to school when the time comes.
- The very high quality of care and learning is the result of knowledgeable and very skilful managers and staff. As a result, children are extremely safe in the nursery and progress incredibly well.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- refine the arrangements at lunchtimes so that pre-school children are more involved in serving food, pouring drinks, setting the table and clearing away, to encourage children's independence even further, in preparation for school.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector had a tour of the setting.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of staff working within the setting, the provider's self-evaluation and a range of other documentation including risk assessments and policies.
- The inspector also took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

### **Inspector**

Caroline Clarke

## Inspection findings

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

Staff use their strong knowledge of how children learn, and their expertise in teaching, to provide an outstanding, exciting and enriching range of learning opportunities. Children of all ages initiate many activities themselves, skilfully supported and challenged by staff. Consequently, all children, including those learning English as an additional language, are very confident talkers. Pre-school children confidently count 10 dough animals they have made and realise that each one needs two eyes. Children are excited and engaged in a range of stimulating activities for prolonged periods of time. Staff observe children closely as they play, making precise and accurate assessments, and planning carefully for their next steps in learning. Children gain the skills they need for school by practising early writing, counting, problem-solving and linking letters and sounds. They show independence and confidence, knowing where to find equipment and how to tidy up. Parents are very involved in their children's learning because staff make good use of newsletters and information evenings to share ideas of how to help children at home.

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

Staff care for children exceptionally well, ensuring that they settle into nursery quickly and easily. The outdoor learning spaces are extremely well resourced and organised, providing rich-learning experiences. Children behave exceptionally well and learn how to take turns because staff manage situations consistently and are excellent role models. Children move around the nursery independently. They are encouraged to dress themselves to play outdoors, which helps prepare them for school. There is scope to extend this even further by encouraging the older children to serve food and clear away the plates at lunchtimes. Staff encourage children to grow in confidence by taking risks within a safe environment. For example, they support and encourage them as they balance along the obstacle course. Managers have an exceptional understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children. All staff implement policies and safe working practices very effectively to support children's health, safety and well-being.

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

The manager has a very thorough understanding of her responsibilities and implements a wide range of policies and procedures to support the work of the nursery. Children's progress is monitored rigorously, ensuring that any gaps in progress are very quickly identified and effectively addressed. Excellent partnerships with outside professionals and other providers mean that all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make very good progress. Parents are extremely positive about the nursery, stating how much progress their children have made and the excellent reputation the nursery has. The strong staff team continually strive to improve outcomes for children and are passionate in their roles. Staff training has a good impact on children's learning, as have the robust procedures for staff recruitment, induction and performance management.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY355999
<b>Local authority</b>	Norfolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	857493
<b>Type of provision</b>	
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	96
<b>Name of provider</b>	Once Upon A Time Nursery School Ltd.
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 February 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01603 787 353

Once Upon A Time Nursery School first registered in 2007. It operates from the ground floor of an extended house in Sprowston on the outskirts of Norwich. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am until 6pm, for 51 weeks a year. It employs 15 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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