

Cloud 9, at St Bernadettes

Staffordshire County Council, St. Bernadettes RC Primary School, Lindale Drive,
Wombourne, Wolverhampton, WV5 8DZ



Inspection date

24 February 2015

Previous inspection date

18 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff effectively support children's understanding of keeping themselves and others safe through regular routines, such as taking part in fire evacuation drills.
- Leadership and management are strong. Staff use self-evaluation successfully to identify areas for ongoing improvements.
- Staff are good role models and promote consistent boundaries to the children. As a result, behaviour is managed well, because children receive gentle reminders during play.
- Good two-way communication keeps parents and carers very well informed through daily discussion, parents' evenings, newsletters and the setting's website.
- Staff are knowledgeable in planning educational programmes that cover all areas of learning. As a result, children have access to a wide range of well-organised toys and equipment to support their learning.
- Children are developing healthy lifestyles. They enjoy well-balanced and nutritious snacks and meals to promote their good health.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide enough signs, symbols and words in the outdoor environment to fully enhance children's early literacy skills.
- Relationships with the host school are not as successful as other partnerships. As a result, children's move on to school is not as effectively supported as it could be.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to enhance their already good literacy skills, for example, by providing children with images and print in the outdoor area to help further develop their early reading skills
- strengthen the relationship with the host school by ensuring that information is shared more effectively, to further support and ease children's move on to school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities both indoors and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation. This included checking the suitability of staff working in the nursery and children's learning profiles.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a clear knowledge and understanding of how children learn. They use this information to plan exciting and interesting learning opportunities. Children's literacy development is skilfully supported within the classroom, through the use of signs and print. However, staff overlook opportunities to display words and symbols outside to help reinforce and further develop young children's early reading skills. Children are confident learners and eagerly respond to skilful questioning from staff. For example, children's interest in water play is extended as they discover which objects will float or sink. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported very well by staff and the manager. Additional support is sought from external agencies when necessary. Consequently, all children make good progress in relation to their starting points.

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

Staff support children who are new to the nursery very well. Flexible settling-in arrangements allow children to experience two free sessions prior to starting. As a result, children are happy and confident as they settle quickly into the daily routine. Some parents state that their child loves coming to nursery. They say the manager makes the nursery warm and welcoming. This helps parents to feel their child is safe and well cared for. Physical activities are planned indoors and outdoors to support children's overall health and well-being. Children develop their social skills as they take turns to climb the steps on the slide, and share toys and equipment. Children are ready for their move to nursery or school as staff support their independence skills. For example, children put on their own coats and shoes when getting ready for outside play, and access their individual water bottles for a drink when they are thirsty.

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

The provider shows a clear commitment to improving practice. She uses supervision and training opportunities to support staff's overall knowledge and qualifications. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching. Safeguarding is a high priority within the nursery. This ensures children's welfare is fully supported by staff's good knowledge of their role and responsibility in protecting children. As a result, all staff know the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child. The manager regularly monitors the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage through comprehensive assessments. As a result, all of the learning and development requirements are fully met. Partnerships with parents are strong. The manager regularly shares ideas with parents about how they can support their child's learning at home. This successfully supports children to become ready for the next steps in their learning. Staff work closely with local schools and other professionals to support children's individual needs. However, relationships with the host school are not yet fully developed. As a result, staff do not always work closely enough with Reception teachers to share information that will help ease children's move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY338999
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	862800
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	39
Name of provider	Mrs Loraine McHale and Mrs Fiona Woodall Partnership
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2011
Telephone number	07838 342 213

Cloud 9, at St Bernadettes was registered in 2007. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including one with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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