

Victoria House Neighbourhood Nursery

Corbett Street, Smethwick, West Midlands, B66 3PX



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

20 April 2015

23 February 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

- Well-qualified staff have a good understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They provide children with an interesting and inviting learning environment, both inside and outside.
- The nursery provides an effective settling-in procedure, which includes home visits prior to children starting. This means that high regard is paid to children's emotional well-being.
- Children who speak English as an additional language, enjoy a good level of support. Staff encourage children to use resources and strategies, such as visual timetables and Makaton signing.
- Effective partnerships with parents ensure that children's needs are met and their learning is well supported.
- The management team have a strong drive for the ongoing development of the nursery. They recognise the importance of staff training to promote positive outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always encourage children to take part during group times in the pre-school room.
- Staff in the pre-school room, do not make the very best use of information gained from observations to precisely identify children's next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group times in the pre-school room, so that all children have rich opportunities to participate and develop their good speaking skills
- ensure that information gained from observations is used precisely to inform next steps in learning, so children are supported to make rapid progress in the pre-school room.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents, children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager in the pre-school room and the classroom.
- The inspector looked at a variety of documentation, including self-evaluation, policies and procedures, and accident records. She looked at evidence of the suitability of staff and children's development files.
- The inspector observed children's activities inside the main rooms and in the outdoor areas.

Inspector
Carole Price

Inspection findings

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

The staff at the nursery plan a wide range of activities to support children's good progress. Staff know the children well and take account of their interests when planning what they need to learn next. However, staff do not always use information gained from observations precisely to identify children's next steps. This means that occasionally opportunities are missed to further extend their learning. Older children in the classroom are enthused and motivated by planned activities, such as drawing and finding insects in the outdoor area. Babies are encouraged to explore toys with buttons, flaps and simple mechanisms. This enables young children to begin to learn how to operate and understand simple technology. Children also enjoy using their investigative skills to discuss and predict what will happen when water is added to pasta. Children's language development is fostered exceedingly well. This is due to positive input from staff who continuously promote language development through questioning and the skilled use of toys and resources. The staff's interactions and teaching techniques generally show their good understanding of how to engage and capture children's interest. However, during group times, some staff in the pre-school room, miss opportunities to fully engage all children. As a result, some children do not further develop their good speaking skills.

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

Children are happy and settled at the nursery. Staff offer cuddles and reassurance at appropriate times. Children are confident and independent in what they can do. This helps them to develop emotional resilience, equipping them well for moving onto school. Staff remind children of behaviour expectations as they discuss how they need to walk when inside. Children negotiate space successfully in the outdoor environment as they ride on bicycles, developing their physical skills. They gain an awareness of healthy eating during mealtimes as staff sit with them and discuss different foods.

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

Managers and staff have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The management team monitor all children's progress and identify areas for improvement to help narrow gaps in their learning. Furthermore, staff's professional development is supported through regular meetings, observations and appraisals. This attention to detail and reflective approach ensures that all children's individual needs are considered. Children are safe in the nursery. This is because staff know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare or practice of a staff member. Self-evaluation takes into account the views of all stakeholders, which helps to drive improvement. Recommendations raised during the previous inspection have been addressed to improve the quality of care and education of the children. Parents speak highly of the nursery and comment that their children are happy and well cared for.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276595
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	860939
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	73
Number of children on roll	120
Name of provider	Rare Wood Limited (4628605)
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2011
Telephone number	0121 555 6361

Victoria House Neighbourhood Nursery was registered in 2004. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff, of whom 20 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. Two members of staff hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

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