

Gateway Nursery

Purcell Avenue, LICHFIELD, Staffordshire, WS13 7PH



Inspection date

4 March 2015

Previous inspection date

19 March 2014

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

- All staff place the upmost importance on safeguarding children. They provide children with a safe and secure learning environment, in which children are eager to explore and investigate.
- Staff highly value children as individuals and practice is fully inclusive. This helps all children form excellent relationships with the staff which means that they settle, separate from their parents easily and feel a sense of belonging.
- Teaching is inspirational. Staff provide children with an imaginative and inspiring range of play and learning experiences, both indoors and outside. This helps maintain the highest levels of individual achievement in all areas of learning.
- Staff are extremely focused on supporting all children to develop skills in their communication and language, physical and personal, social and emotional development. This prepares all children exceptionally well for their next stage in learning, and for school.
- Staff build extremely positive and trusting partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals. Therefore, all children receive consistent and exceptional care and learning.
- Leaders, managers and staff are fully committed to providing the highest quality care and learning. They evaluate and monitor the quality of the nursery exceptionally well and are pro-active in sharing excellent practice with other early years providers. This promotes constant improvement and continuous professional development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent professional development of staff by sharing excellent practice with professionals from other counties.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and outdoors. The inspector also completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider's representative, nursery manager and the teacher-in-charge. The inspector also spoke to the staff and some children present on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the children's observation, assessment and planning records, the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Dianne Adams

Inspection findings

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

Staff work exceptionally closely with parents and other professionals. This ensures they have a comprehensive understanding of the individual needs of all children, which are met extremely well. Staff are highly skilled at providing interesting activities that enrich children's experiences and reflect their interests. Some children show curiosity and play with apples and oranges, while others enjoy looking at twinkling lights hanging from twigs. Parents comment on how well staff adapt the routine to help all children join in and enjoy their time in the nursery. This includes planning music and movement activities at the beginning of the session. Children make significant progress because all staff have the highest aspirations for children's learning. Teaching highly motivates children to remain focused and fully engaged. Children sit engrossed as they listen to stories presented by staff in imaginative ways. This develops their listening and concentration skills. Children are encouraged to use all of their senses as they investigate bags of soil and ice when reading a story about a bear. Staff support children to share their needs and ideas in different ways. Children develop their skills for speaking, using different ways to communicate.

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

Care practices significantly enhance children's emotional and physical development. Staff are extremely focused on supporting children to build trusting relationships. Staff get to know children and their families by meeting them at home, and at stay and play groups. This effectively supports children and parents to manage the move from home to nursery with confidence. Staff are highly skilled at building children's self-esteem by enthusing and constantly praising their efforts and achievements. This encourages children to have a go at new experiences and persevere in their chosen activities. Children understand how to behave and keep safe through sensitive reminders provided by staff. They have ample opportunities to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nutritious snacks and alternatives are provided to meet children's specific dietary needs to ensure all children are fully included.

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

Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe and healthy. They follow robust safeguarding policies and procedures. Managers recruit staff safely by rigorously checking their suitability. Highly effective risk assessments and fire safety precautions provide children with a safe environment in which to play. All staff are enthusiastic and highly committed to developing their professional skills through attending training to improve their delivery of activities linked to communication and language. They are now seeking to share excellent practice with professionals from other areas. The views of parents are exceedingly well valued and excellent communication supports parents to continue children's learning at home. Parents particularly comment on the homely feel of the nursery where they feel they are not judged and can seek support for any childcare issues.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY376519
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	967621
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	Rocklands School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2014
Telephone number	01543 560765

The Gateway Nursery was registered in 2008. It is situated in Lichfield in Staffordshire. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff, including the manager. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Two staff, including the nursery manager, hold Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.30am until 12 noon five days per week and from 1pm until 3pm on Tuesday and Wednesday. The nursery provides care for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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