

Badgers Barn Private Pre-School and Day Nursery

132 Chester Road, Helsby, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 9NN



Inspection date

3 June 2015

Previous inspection date

26 March 2012

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the setting is of a very high standard. Enthusiastic and motivated staff provide children with a range of challenging and exciting learning experiences, both inside and out. This results in highly motivated children, eager to participate with a passion for learning.
- Experienced staff have an excellent understanding of children's individual needs. They use observation and assessment opportunities to ensure next steps for learning are planned for accurately.
- Almost all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make very good progress in learning.
- Children are extremely happy, confident and settled in the provision. Strong key-person relationships ensure that children's needs are always met and that children are developing secure attachments.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding and are clear on the procedures they must follow if they have concerns about the safety of a child.
- The nursery leadership team is highly effective in driving improvements. Staff are passionate and committed towards achieving excellence in all areas.
- The leadership team have an excellent understanding of the staff team and their personal development needs. Staff are well supported to enhance their qualifications and training needs, so they continuously improve their practice and skills.
- Excellent partnerships with other providers and agencies are very well developed. The nursery works closely with the local children's centre to support parental engagement.
- Outdoor areas exceptionally well used to promote all aspects of learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to support less experienced staff and students to increase their confidence when questioning children during play, to further enhance the children's already very good thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the children and the staff during play, both inside and out.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation including the self-evaluation document, risk assessments, a range of policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.

Inspector

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Staff have an excellent understanding of how children learn and use their expertise in providing a range of learning opportunities that are fun and exciting to children. Children benefit from prolonged periods of uninterrupted play. They are given time to explore and experiment with resources to consolidate their prior learning independently. Children's language and communication skills are exceptionally well promoted. Highly skilled staff engage in conversations with children and extend their vocabulary during imaginative play. New language, such as skull and cross bones, is introduced when pretending to be pirates. Babies are offered an excellent range of multi-sensory experiences to develop their interest and exploratory skills. This ensures that they are developing the necessary skills to support their future learning. All staff work in close partnership with parents to promote children's learning and development needs through a combined approach.

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

The highly skilled staff team ensures that staffing arrangements are consistent. As a result, children develop secure, emotional attachments quickly and are extremely confident and settled. Experienced staff ensure children are kept safe and promote children in developing the skills they need to manage risks independently. Children have an excellent understanding of their abilities and use their skills with confidence. There is an excellent range of stimulating resources, which children access freely. This enables them to develop their independent learning. Skilled staff ensure that the outdoor environment is used constantly. The outdoor classroom is used by the older children to enhance their learning experiences. Children have an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. The introduction of a vegetable garden is being used to further extend children's understanding of healthy diets, growth and where food comes from. Staff and children will use the crops for snacks and meals to develop children's understanding of self-sufficiency.

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

Excellent partnerships between parents and the nursery staff ensure that parents are well informed about and involved in their child's learning and development. Parents comment that they receive comprehensive information about their child's progress. Staff teams work together extremely well, sharing information to ensure the organisation within the setting is excellent. Children are provided with a relaxed and homely environment where everyone is respected and valued. Staff are exceptionally well supported. Annual appraisals and regular reflective discussions ensure that staff are provided with high levels of support. Leaders monitor staff performance closely and any development points are quickly recognised and tackled through training and guidance. Comprehensive self-evaluation is completed regularly and accurately identifies how the nursery can improve even further. For example, leaders are aware that some less experienced staff and students need further support to build their confidence when supporting children's learning, particularly around giving children time to respond to questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	304967
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	867555
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	85
Name of provider	Angelina Wheeler
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2012
Telephone number	01928 727129

Badger's Barn Nursery was registered in 2000. The pre-school employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Early Years Professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday all year round, with the exception of Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm, although early starts and late finishes are available upon request. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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