

Whitegate Early Years Care



Whitegate Nursery School & Children's Centre, Victoria Road, Padiham, BURNLEY, Lancashire, BB12 8TG

Inspection date	18 June 2015
Previous inspection date	16 August 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 management team and staff have an excellent understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The quality of teaching across the setting is outstanding. As a result, children engage in an excellent range of challenging activities, which meet their individual needs, interests and contribute towards their continued progress.
- Sharply focused observations and assessments are used to accurately track children's progress and identify any gaps in their learning. As a result, all children are making rapid progress from their starting points.
- Children's emotional and physical development are supported exceptionally well. They are confident, self-motivated and show a strong sense of belonging.
- Children settle in extremely quickly due to the close bonds they make with their main carer.
- Leadership is inspirational and this means that staff are highly motivated and enthusiastic, which results in children having fun at the setting.
- All staff hold qualifications of at least level 3 and this, together with a well targeted programme of ongoing training, has a considerably positive impact on children's progress.
- Staff provide children with uninterrupted time to play and experiment so that they remain highly engaged and focused on activities.
- The outstanding partnerships with parents and other professionals promote each child's learning through a consistent and shared approach.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich the outdoor environment so that children have easy access to an even greater range of resources to promote their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching across the setting and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider, manager and deputy manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with parents and children and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Cath Palser

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide an outstanding range of high-quality learning experiences for all children. Consequently, children are developing skills and attitudes that help to prepare them extremely well for school. The environment is well planned to offer children plenty of opportunities to play and explore and they access resources independently. Children are highly motivated, confident and thrive in the setting as their needs are met very well. Staff use highly effective teaching strategies to promote children's communication and language skills. For example, staff provide a running commentary as younger children play and they copy and repeat children's words and utterances. Staff hide musical instruments and encourage children to listen and work out where the sound is coming from. They engage older children in purposeful dialogue and give them plenty of time to think and respond to questions that they pose. As a result, children are very confident in communicating their own ideas.

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

The motivated and friendly staff provide an extremely welcoming environment and children thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. Daily routines, such as, nappy changing and feeding are carried out by children's key person, who support their emotional security well. Children develop a strong understanding of healthy lifestyles and are offered nutritious food that is freshly prepared on the premises. Regular opportunities to exercise vigorously outdoors using a range of high-quality equipment support children to develop increasing self-confidence in their physical skills. Staff consistently give priority to the safety of children and effectively support their growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Staff are exceptional role models. They provide clear guidelines and give gentle reminders of expectations. As a result, children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures so that children are very well protected and safeguarded.

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

The management team monitor the performance of staff closely and promptly implement action plans to ensure that high-quality teaching is consistently maintained. They have robust induction and supervision systems in place and promote ongoing professional development. The management team are very keen to develop the methods for planning to ensure that children are given continuous access to resources and experiences that cover all areas of learning. For example, following a review of planning, they noticed a need to provide children with more opportunities to access tools to promote early writing skills in the outdoor environment. Sharply focused and innovative training plans provide staff with the skills to support children with individualised teaching methods to develop their speech and language skills. These successful strategies are shared with other professionals and parents to effectively support children's learning at home. As a result, children are making outstanding progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334266
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	849168
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	84
Number of children on roll	125
Name of provider	Whitegate Early Years Care
Date of previous inspection	16 August 2010
Telephone number	01282 772283

Whitegate Early Years Care was registered in 2006. The setting employs 18 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications of at level 3 or above. One staff member holds Qualified Teacher Status, three hold qualifications at level 6 and two hold qualifications at level 4. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 5.45pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

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