

# Dalton Willow Tree Centre

Willow Tree Childrens Centre, Foljambe Drive, Dalton, ROTHERHAM, South  
Yorkshire, S65 4HQ



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

9 September 2015

15 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff support children well to develop the skills they need in readiness for their move onto school. Children learn about safe and acceptable behaviour and are beginning to listen and follow instruction, share, take turns and sit together for stories and snack.
- Leaders and staff conduct home visits, settling in sessions and daily discussions with parents, which they highly value. This greatly supports children to settle and helps parents to become involved in their child's learning and development right from the start.
- Staff have a deep understanding of their key children as they make regular and accurate checks on their learning and development. Consequently, through their effective teaching, staff skilfully provide the right level of support at the right time to help children catch up quickly and make good progress.
- Leaders and staff are rightly focussed on helping all the children reach their full potential. They regularly monitor the quality of their work, and the difference this is making, so they know what they need to improve and how to achieve this.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not fully confident to learn from, and help develop, each other's professional knowledge and expertise. For example through observing and evaluating each other's practice.
- Leaders have not successfully sustained the involvement of health visitors in children's two year old checks to ensure assessments are based on the knowledge of all professionals working with the child.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- Improve teaching to an exceptional standard by strengthening team working so staff become confident to learn from, and develop, one another's professional knowledge and expertise
- Develop partnership working with health professionals further so information contained in both the health development review at age two, and the progress check at age two, identify and provide any support as early as possible.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the managers of the provision.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken with on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

### Inspector

Rachael Flesher

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders thoroughly check the quality of teaching and the progress children are making. They make sure staff understand what they need to improve and why. This ensures all children are accessing appropriate learning and development opportunities and making good progress. Leaders and staff make good use of the wide range of professional development and support available to them. This includes working in partnership with the school and children's centre. This ensures they remain up to date and maintain good professional knowledge and expertise and, overall, have a secure understanding of the needs of the children they work with. Safeguarding is effective as leaders and staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities to ensure children's safety and well-being.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff take time to talk with parents about their key children before they start attending, and on a regular basis. This ensures they know what the children understand and can do and how to best support their learning and development. This helps children continue to make progress at home during holiday periods when the nursery is closed and maintain regular attendance. Through their thorough checks on children, staff know when to refer a child for additional support, and where to focus their teaching, to help children catch up when they are behind. Consequently, staff provide lots of opportunities for children to listen, talk, write and be physically active. They ask questions that encourage children to think and work things out for themselves. They provide activities they know will interest and excite the children and skilfully use these to support each child's learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The trusting relationships staff have developed with parents ensure they understand about life at home for the children, including changes in circumstances and routines that may have unsettled a child. In addition, staff are highly trained and skilled in supporting children to develop their emotional well-being and form secure attachments with other adults. As a result, children are developing their confidence, self-esteem and independence and are starting to catch up quickly. The effective key person system ensures children are well prepared for their move to school. Excellent arrangements are in place with the school on site. Children visit in groups with their key person on several occasions. This helps them become familiar with their new school and provides opportunities for staff to share what they know about each child with their new teacher. Children are learning to take care of themselves and each other.

### Outcomes for children are good

Many children start at nursery with skills below those expected for their age. The good quality care and teaching provided by staff ensure all children are challenged and motivated to learn. As a result, children enjoy nursery and are keen to join in, play and learn with staff and other children. They are supported well to catch up quickly where they are behind. Consequently, most children are making good progress in readiness for their move onto the foundation stage at school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY475743
<b>Local authority</b>	Rotherham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1026779
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 3
<b>Total number of places</b>	16
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	28
<b>Name of provider</b>	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 September 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01709 853395

Dalton Willow Tree Centre was registered with Ofsted in March 2014 and is managed by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. It operates from Willow Tree Children's Centre, in the grounds of Dalton Foljambe Primary School. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and the manager holds a level 5 qualification. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, and three-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

