

Squirrel Club

Lee Royd Nursery School, Royds Street, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 2LH



Inspection date	16 September 2015
Previous inspection date	28 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Teaching is good and some practice is outstanding. Children are very well supported to develop their communication and language skills. Staff consistently use a variety of questioning techniques to effectively extend children's vocabulary and understanding.
- Staff are good role models who treat children with kindness and respect. Children display good levels of confidence and self-esteem, and happily seek out staff for comfort and reassurance.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are very strong. Staff are vigilant in recognising and dealing swiftly with any emerging learning needs of individual children. Staff are proactive in ensuring that the correct procedures are put in place to support children to make good progress. Parents are consistently updated with information regarding their children.
- The management team and staff demonstrate a dedicated drive to improve the outcomes for children. They use self-evaluation effectively to identify and develop strategies to aid improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always maximise opportunities for children to follow their own ideas and fascinations.
- Staff do not always make the most of everyday routines to secure one-to-one time with their key children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to be able to follow their own ideas and fascinations
- build on the already good relationships between staff and children at routine times of the day, so that children have the opportunity for even more one-to-one time with their key person.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and director. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibility to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Clear policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place. These are reviewed regularly and well understood by all staff. The manager is committed to ensuring the professional development of all staff. She works closely with the team and children benefit from the experiences provided by enthusiastic, dedicated and well qualified, long serving members of staff. Staff training needs are identified and addressed on an ongoing basis. Regular and precise monitoring of educational programmes is carried out. Staff maintain successful levels of attainment and all children make consistently good progress in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the ways in which children learn and develop. They plan a broad range of exciting activities, covering all the areas of learning that capture children's interests and needs. Children are fully engaged and motivated in their learning. Younger children develop their small-muscle skills, and they use a variety of different media to make marks and create their own pictures. Older children are encouraged to recognise the letters in their name and staff promote children's early literacy skills. However, some staff do not maximise every opportunity for children to follow their own ideas and fascinations during child-initiated activities. Children enjoy singing number rhyme songs and staff encourage them to use their fingers to count. Children who speak English as an additional language eagerly join in and are supported by bilingual staff and staff who use British Sign Language. They sit close to children, model the actions and articulate words clearly. Staff praise all children for their efforts, giving them a real sense of achievement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop positive and trusting relationships with staff, and with staff at the adjoining nursery school. This contributes towards children being supported as they move between settings. Settling-in sessions are used well to get to know children and provide for their individual needs. Some new children become a little unsettled as key-person relationships are not always used effectively at routines times of the day, such as when bringing children in from outdoors and nappy changing times. Staff help children understand the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. Children have many opportunities to access outdoor play and staff encourage children to eat healthily. They are encouraged to develop their independence and self-help skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Outcomes for children are good. Most children make good progress and some make rapid progress from their starting points. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, or who speak English as an additional language are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310937
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1027607
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Squirrel Club Ltd
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2011
Telephone number	01254 231725

Squirrel Club was registered in 2005. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including a director who holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 4.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery provides wrap around care for the adjoining maintained nursery school. The nursery supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email 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.

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/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at 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.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

