

HIGHFIELD NURSERY

Highfields Childrens Nursery, 155 Highfield Road, BLACKPOOL, FY4 2HG



Inspection date

22 September 2015

Previous inspection date

3 July 2012

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

- Staff understand what the children need to learn next. They provide a good range of resources and activities which interest the children and motivate them to learn. This helps all children to make good progress.
- Staff act as positive role models as they effectively manage children's behaviour. Children are provided with constant praise and encouragement from the nursery staff, which helps to promote their self-esteem.
- The staff team are well qualified. Staff are actively encouraged to attend training courses to further enhance their already good knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Caring and sensitive staff provide a nurturing environment where children are valued. This fosters a strong sense of belonging and community, which helps to promote children's confidence.
- Effective management procedures lead to careful monitoring of all aspects of the provision and a drive for constant improvement. This helps benefit children and results in a service that is continually improving.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not obtain detailed information from parents about their children's learning abilities and skills when they first start.
- Occasionally, staff do not give children sufficient time to respond to questions, to enable the children to further develop their critical-thinking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more detailed information from parents about their children's capabilities on entry to the setting, to inform initial assessments and promote more rapid progress from the outset
- give children more time to think about the answers to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used by children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector engaged in discussions with the staff and children throughout the inspection at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and area manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation, children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Kerry Holder

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff meetings and regular staff supervisions are well organised, enabling the staff to effectively work together as a team. They access training and support from the local authority, which supports improvements in practice. Staff promote successful partnerships with parents and share daily information regarding children's achievements. Links with outside professionals and local schools have been established, which helps staff to share relevant information in order to meet children's individual needs well. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have attended training and fully understand their roles and responsibilities and the procedures to follow should they have any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are highly motivated and engaged in their play. Staff encourage children to be independent through play activities and during daily routines. Staff extend young children's learning during activities through their good interactions with them, making suggestions and asking questions. However, on occasions, staff are less effective at allowing children more time to respond to questions, in order to support their thinking skills further. Staff provide a range of activities which enable children to develop their creativity. Children are supported to develop their mathematical skills as they count and talk about colours in everyday play. Older children have positive discussions with staff that help them solve problems and extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff deploy themselves effectively to ensure that they supervise and engage with children positively. Staff are friendly and help all children to feel included, which helps to support their emotional well-being. On entry, settling-in visits are arranged and planned for depending on children's individual needs. Staff gather information about children's care needs and interests. This helps children to be emotionally secure from the outset. However, the information staff obtain from parents on entry is not detailed enough to help them precisely plan for children's learning from the start. Staff teach children to be independent and learn about healthy lifestyles through well-managed daily routines and activities. Children enjoy good conversations at mealtimes about foods that are healthy and they help to prepare their own snacks. This helps them to learn about the importance of a healthy diet. Children are encouraged to engage in physical play, which contributes towards them gaining an understanding of the importance of exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff observe children and evaluate the progress children are making in their learning and development. The management team effectively reviews children's profiles and the educational programmes to ensure that all children benefit from an individualised programme of learning. This helps to promptly close any gaps in children's learning and supports them to make good progress, in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439617
Local authority	Blackpool
Inspection number	854012
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	119
Number of children on roll	89
Name of provider	Sarah Louise Sloane
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2012
Telephone number	07966752473

Highfield Nursery was registered in 2012. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff, 14 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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