

Ribchester Nursery School

St Peter & St Paul Parish Centre, Stydd Lane, Ribchester, Lancashire, PR3 3YQ



Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

15 December 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

- The manager is passionate and enthusiastic about the quality of the nursery. She regularly seeks the views of children, parents and staff to set high expectations and drive improvement across the nursery.
- Staff know the children well and plan experiences and opportunities that promote their love of learning. All children are happy, engaged and self-motivated and make good progress in all areas of learning and development.
- Staff are deployed effectively in the nursery to support children's care practices and routines. Children settle in quickly and their physical and emotional well-being are met well.
- Ongoing assessments, including the progress check for children aged between two and three years, are completed and used to accurately identify children's progress. This is used to effectively identify any gaps and seek early support. All children are making good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The methods of training, supervision and professional development are not highly focused to ensure the quality of teaching is constantly improving.
- The manager has not developed highly effective partnership working with other professionals, including schools and local providers.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the programme of professional development to help staff enhance their good knowledge, understanding and practice, in order to raise the quality of teaching even further
- build on the partnership working with other professionals, including local schools, to help improve the outcomes for children and their families.

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 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 and the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at feedback documents and spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection to take account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.

Inspector

Cath Palser

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager fully understands her role in meeting the statutory requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications. These, together with current paediatric first-aid, safeguarding and food hygiene training, mean that all staff have a robust understanding of how to keep children safe. The manager provides in-house training and has recently introduced methods to promote staff supervision and monitor the effectiveness of teaching. She is keen to build on the programme of ongoing staff professional development so that the quality of teaching and learning is constantly improving. Staff use a range of effective strategies to share ideas with parents in order to support children's learning at home. This contributes to the good progress that children are making from their starting points. The manager is developing ways to promote the links and build on relationships with the local school and other professionals, to provide continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is consistently good throughout the nursery. Staff use their skills and experience to effectively plan activities that offer all children a challenge and stimulate their thirst for learning. They use a range of strategies to promote children's language and communication skills. For example, they introduce new words as children play and invite them to join in with songs and stories. This contributes to children gaining confidence in expressing their views and opinions and talking about their experiences. Staff plan experiences that cover all areas of learning and development. Children develop good problem-solving and critical-thinking skills and enjoy early mathematics and literacy activities. These help all children to make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills needed for their future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to understand behavioural expectations, respect each other and play cooperatively together. Older children are keen to help during tasks, such as setting the table, which contributes towards their independence, self-esteem and sense of belonging. Resources are planned well to encourage children to explore and investigate the environment and choose what they wish to play with. Children develop strong physical skills, for example, as they play with vigour and energy and use the large play equipment outdoors with growing confidence. Parents praise the friendly staff and the information shared with them, which effectively promotes children's personal development and welfare.

Outcomes for children are good

Ongoing assessments, including the progress check for children aged between two and three years, are completed and used to accurately identify any gaps in children's progress. All children are making good progress from their starting points and are prepared well for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309441
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	867871
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	Julie Patricia Joyce
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2011
Telephone number	01254 878 288

Ribchester Nursery School was registered in 1986. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens Tuesday to Thursday during term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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