Castle Hill Day Nursery

Castle Hill Day Nursery, 5 King Street, Todmorden, Lancashire, OL14 5SL



| Inspection date | 28 October 2015 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Previous inspection date | 2 June 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

- Staff work well together and contribute to the ongoing improvement of the nursery. The effective leaders ensure that a comprehensive programme of professional development supports teaching.
- The indoor and outdoor environments are well planned to support play and learning. Children enjoy exploring the well-maintained resources and equipment made available for them. Staff capitalise on children's interests when planning activities. For example, when the children were curious about a digger which was working outside the nursery, activities were based on their interest.
- Children feel safe and secure. This means that they readily involve themselves in their play and are emotionally secure. Parents talk to their key person regularly and are well informed about what their children have done and how they are developing.
- Children of all abilities make good progress. This is as a result of accurate assessments and children being provided with challenges that extend their learning. Staff make suggestions and question the children based on their good knowledge of children's individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide children with the appropriate crockery at lunchtimes on which to put their cake.
- Occasionally, there are fewer opportunities for children to develop their imaginations and demonstrate their creativity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review lunchtime procedures so that children are always provided with appropriate crockery
- ensure that children are provided with more opportunities to develop and enhance their creativity and extend their imaginations.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Pauline Hilling-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers are effective leaders. They ensure that all staff develop a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and put this knowledge into practice. Areas identified for improvement at the last inspection have been addressed well. Through good teamwork, and the strong relationships which exist between parents and staff, information is routinely sought and used to ensure that each child's individual needs are met closely. Staff observe children regularly and use their accurate assessments to identify children's learning needs. Safeguarding arrangements are effective. All staff complete regular safeguarding training. They have a secure understanding of child protection issues, including the procedures for reporting concerns. All staff are helped to improve their practice through regular observation by leaders of their teaching. Effective supervision procedures address any inconsistencies and identify training needs. For example, following their evaluations, consistency in how all staff manage children's behaviour has improved.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are actively involved in children's play and place a good focus on supporting children's language and communication. They plan challenges for children so that they make good progress in their learning. Staff develop children's mathematical skills well as they plan interesting number activities that contribute to the older children's developing understanding of how many and enough. Staff quickly modify what they ask children to do based on their observation of how each child responds to a challenge. They give just the right amount of support for children to be successful. However, there are fewer sensory opportunities for children to explore their creativity and imaginations in original ways.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have strong relationships with children. They give babies warm cuddles and ensure children receive lots of verbal praise. This helps children to feel secure and to persevere with their tasks. Staff work closely with the local school to support children's transitions as they approach the next stage in their learning. Staff talk to children about what to expect so that they are confident and prepared for their move. Staff effectively promote children's health. Children have good opportunities to go for walks and play outdoors. They eat healthy snacks and take part in well-managed daily hygiene routines.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are learning to be independent and to develop their self-help skills. Their literacy skills are developing well; they know how to read and write their own name and they recognise the sounds that letters make. Children are making good progress, considering their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number 303710

Local authority Calderdale

Inspection number 864781

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 36

Number of children on roll 65

Name of provider Suzanne Winstanley

Date of previous inspection 2 June 2011

Telephone number 01706 814800

Castle Hill Day Nursery was registered in 1981. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications, four at level 2, eight at level 3 and one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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