

Playaway Day Nursery

Grasmere Drive, Beechwood, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2TT



Inspection date

6 November 2015

Previous inspection date

29 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff have an excellent understanding of their role in promoting children's development. They join in with children as they play and demonstrate a genuine interest and a passion for their work.
- The nursery benefits from an extremely motivated management team that is inspirational and extremely supportive of staff. Both the provider and the nursery manager inspire staff to achieve the highest standards in learning experiences for children.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of how children learn through play. They use their observations to plan sharply focused next steps in learning. This helps children to reach their full potential, particularly in their language and communication skills.
- Babies and children are offered exceptionally warm and affectionate care, enabling them to form very secure emotional attachments with the staff caring for them. Throughout the nursery, children visibly flourish and blossom. Behaviour is extremely good.
- There is excellent communication and sharing of information about children's needs and progress with parents. Parents speak very positively about the nursery and are delighted with the progress their children make.
- A well-targeted programme of professional development means that staff are constantly seeking to improve their already excellent understanding of how children learn.
- The environment both indoors and outdoors is exceptionally well resourced and effectively supports children's sense of curiosity and their natural desire to explore and investigate.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore further ways to involve parents in the support of their children's learning both at home and in the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, policies, procedures, risk assessments and the settings self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to both children and staff and observed play and learning activities within the main environment and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations and held a meeting with the provider and the nursery manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Alison Regan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leadership of the nursery is exceptional. High expectations of both staff and children run throughout the whole of the nursery. Staff are very well qualified and experienced. This has a positive impact on the outcomes for children. The provider and manager fully understand and implement statutory and other government requirements. They continually assess every aspect of their practice. Stringent methods of self-evaluation mean the whole team and parents contribute to focused plans. This maintains and builds on the high-quality teaching and high achievement for all children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff and managers establish valuable partnerships with parents and other professionals. Together they create a culture of support and continuously strive to have a positive impact on all children and their families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly knowledgeable and experienced staff demonstrate the very highest quality of teaching with children of all ages. Activities are fun and exceptionally well planned. They build on children's prior knowledge and effectively enhance their learning. Babies develop extremely quickly through the close attention given to them. Staff help them to explore their environment with many interesting and innovative sensory activities. Staff effectively challenge older children to solve problems and work out solutions for themselves. They use their expert knowledge to identify the most effective teaching approach to extend children's learning even further. Staff work highly effectively with parents and other professionals to share information and plan for each child's needs. The provider and the manager recognise the opportunity to develop the information they give to parents even further, so they are able to contribute as much as possible to guiding their child's learning at home and in the nursery.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children settle quickly as staff are very kind and caring and are fully aware of their needs. Children's self-esteem and confidence is embedded through lots of praise and gentle encouragement by their key person. Staff are superb role models for children. They show respect for children's role in making their own decisions. Children clearly demonstrate that they have learnt to think about others and readily take turns when playing with their peers. Children are extremely independent and are provided with excellent opportunities to further develop their skills in preparation for the next stage in their learning. Older children help with nursery routines and practices, such as tidying the room, and they take pride in showing visitors around their nursery.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs and those who access funding, make excellent progress from their starting points. A highly effective system for checking children's progress quickly highlights any gaps in children's learning, enabling staff to implement carefully tailored strategies to effectively meet their individual needs. All children leave the nursery well equipped with the key skills they need for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303448
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	867456
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	102
Name of provider	Grainne Mary McGovern-Scott
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2011
Telephone number	01928 577 855

Playaway Day Nursery was registered in 1993. The nursery employs 30 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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

