

The Old Forge Day Nursery

Old Forge, The Green, Findern, DERBY, DE65 6AA



Inspection date

15 September 2015

Previous inspection date

12 October 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

- Leadership is strong and there is a clear motivation to develop and improve the quality of the nursery. The manager and owners have high expectations as they accurately identify priorities for improvement.
- Children enjoy their play. Staff plan activities around their interests and developmental needs. They adapt activities well to cater for disabled children and those who have special educational needs. Staff complete regular, very precise assessments of the children. They use these effectively and plan for children's next stages in learning.
- Staff provide a friendly, welcoming and well-resourced environment. Children develop strong and close attachments to staff. They demonstrate that they are settled and have a very positive attitude to learning.
- Staff promote children's communication and language skills well. They encourage conversations and ask children questions. Children use language confidently and eagerly talk about what they are doing.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Staff keep parents well informed about children's development. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Activities carried out in groups do not always extend children's learning to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use every opportunity to effectively extend and challenge children's sustained thinking and learning, particularly when they take part in group activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held discussions with the manager and owners of the provision.
- The inspector observed children at play, both inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, learning journey records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children, the policies and procedures and the nursery's action plan.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is well qualified and experienced. She uses her knowledge well to successfully run the nursery. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children's safety is promoted extremely well through robust safeguarding procedures. Staff know what action to take if they have a concern about a child in their care. There are vigorous recruitment procedures to ensure the suitability of staff. The manager checks on children's progress weekly. She identifies gaps in their learning and plans to close these quickly. In addition, she also checks staff's performance and implements regular supervisions and yearly appraisals. Staff attend training courses to enhance their teaching and enrich their knowledge. They use their new ideas from training to benefit all children. The manager has addressed the recommendations from previous inspections. Partnerships with the school, local authority and outside agencies are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how children learn through play. They are very enthusiastic in how they interact with the children. Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Staff provide activities that motivate children and encourage them to learn. Some group sessions are not sufficiently focused on supporting older children to extend their concentration and to challenge learning to a higher level. Babies are developing well and thrive in the well-organised baby room. They enjoy playing with pop-up toys and musical instruments. Children are active learners. Toddlers explore and dig in the construction area and become builders. They investigate mixtures as they make their special fairy potions. Pre-school children learn mathematical concepts well. They weigh ingredients as they make gingerbread men and count the numbers on dice. Children's physical development is good. Children are handling equipment efficiently and gaining good control of their bodies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy to attend the nursery. There are effective arrangements to care for children. Older children demonstrate they are confident. Children from an early age are learning independence skills. They are well behaved and older children are beginning to learn to respect each other's thoughts and feelings. They play harmoniously together, sharing toys and taking turns. Children are beginning to learn about healthy lifestyles and how to keep themselves safe. They take part in daily exercise and enjoy healthy home-made meals. Children use equipment carefully, such as scissors, and take part in regular fire drills. Staff encourage children to follow effective hygiene procedures from an early age. Older children have a good understanding of the importance of self-care.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well in their learning and development, including those who receive funded education. Older children are well prepared for their move to school and are acquiring the key skills for future learning. Their literacy skills are developing well. Some older children can write their name accurately and are learning the sounds of letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427124
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	852748
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	90
Name of provider	The Old Forge Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	12 October 2011
Telephone number	01283701533

The Old Forge Day Nursery was re-registered in 2011. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round except for bank holidays and a week between Christmas and New Year. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two- and three-year-old children. It employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. One of the owners holds Early Years Professional Status.

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