

# Dollymixtures Nursery

The New Lodge, Corporation Street, Stafford, ST16 3AG



## Inspection date

5 January 2016

Previous inspection date

21 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- High priority is given to achieving an exemplary working relationship with parents by all staff. Parents actively contribute to their children's learning through the enthusiastic and innovative parent forum in place.
- Teaching is first class. All staff highly motivate and inspire children to learn in a fun and exciting way. Children's progress is comprehensively and accurately monitored. Staff take every advantage of all opportunities to build on children's existing skills, knowledge and interests.
- Excellent resources, both indoors and outdoors, give children optimum opportunity to continue with their learning.
- Staff work exceedingly well with local schools to make children's move to school seamless. Information about the school, the teacher and the new environment is gathered for the children. This helps to support children, so they know what to expect as they move to the next stage in their learning.
- Highly committed management and staff share a team goal to maintain excellence. This means that the setting has continued to improve and build on their previous outstanding performance.
- Children with English as an additional language receive consistently high-quality support. Staff work closely with parents and reflect a highly inclusive ethos for all children attending the nursery.
- Staff place high priority on promoting children's personal, social and emotional skills. All children, particularly older children, show high levels of confidence and self-esteem in social situations.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for younger children to explore and investigate in the outdoor environment.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation. This included self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Lesley Bott

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have an excellent knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. Robust procedures are in place for staff to follow about what action to take should they have a concern about a child. Staff encourage parental participation at all levels and times. This means all have a thorough knowledge and understanding of their children's learning and development. Excellent systems are in place to manage and monitor all staff's practice and the impact this has on children's learning. Staff place a high importance on undertaking qualifications and training to strengthen their practice. They continue to extend their knowledge and understanding of changes in the requirements. This makes sure that they continue to enhance children's learning and welfare. The manager has an excellent understanding on the need for self-reflection and reviewing of practice. Staff, parents and children are able to be involved in this process to help improve outcomes for every child. The manager has identified and is currently working on ways to extend younger children's opportunities to explore and investigate in the outdoors.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff make excellent use of every opportunity to help increase children's vocabulary, making full use of daily routine activities. Children have time to listen, think and express their own thoughts through the 'plan/do/review' approach to their experiences. Children enthusiastically discuss the difference between estimated and actual numbers as they look to solve mathematical problems. Staff undertake robust and thorough assessments of children's achievements. Information is shared regularly with parents in a variety of different ways. This helps to ensure that parents jointly plan and are fully involved in their child's continued learning. Consequently, children are highly motivated learners who consistently try hard to achieve exceptionally well.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy and extremely enthusiastic as they readily involve themselves in the varied activities on offer. Outdoor play is a daily opportunity for all children. Children take part in growing and tending to winter vegetables in the summer months. Older children take this produce with them to their new school to be part of their Harvest Festival celebration. Healthy eating and lifestyles are firmly established with the children from an early age. Older children have extended opportunities to attend Forest School activities off site, on a regular basis. This builds on their safety awareness as well as their opportunity to experience and learn about the natural world.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Exemplary planning and outstanding teaching practices ensure that all children make rapid progress in relation to their starting points. Children are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning, including starting school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY104370
<b>Local authority</b>	Staffordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	848150
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	74
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	128
<b>Name of provider</b>	Debra Jones
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	21 September 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01785223511

Dollymixtures Nursery was registered in 2002. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 5, including two with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 6.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and supports children with English as an additional language.

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