

Tiny Footsteps Day Nursery



St Vincents Church Hall, Rutherford Drive, Overhulton, BOLTON, BL5 1ER

Inspection date	10 February 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 prepare the environment each day so that it is stimulating and welcoming. The manager ensures that children receive a varied range of interesting and exciting activities. This helps children to make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- Staff provide good support for children developing their language and listening skills. Focus groups provide children with opportunities to engage in group activities that help to build their confidence and self-esteem.
- Staff promote consistent parental engagement. Parents are strongly engaged in their child's learning. Parents feel that they are well supported in guiding their child's learning at home. Parents report enthusiastically that they feel well supported in practical matters, such as potty training.
- Staff consistently promote and support children's emotional well-being through a well-established key-person system. Children benefit from the emotional support from staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff do not use their knowledge about individual children, in order to challenge them to the highest level during some group-time activities.
- Monitoring arrangements of staff's performance are not yet highly focused on raising the quality of teaching to a consistently outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that all staff have consistently high expectations of children, particularly when supporting group-time activities
- strengthen even further, the monitoring of staff practice, so that it is even more highly focused on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

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 completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the manager's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Helen Gaze

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team work well together and manage a well-qualified team. The manager has an accurate view of the setting. Meaningful action plans support the staff team to prioritise improvements. This helps to ensure that changes implemented have a positive impact on children's outcomes. The manager uses review systems effectively to monitor children's progress and to provide swift interventions when needed. Partnerships with external agencies are effective, and help to provide a consistent approach for children to enable their learning needs to be met. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate their comprehensive understanding of safeguarding and child protection and they implement the setting's policies well. Staff attend safeguarding training and all staff keep their first aid up to date. This helps to keep children safe from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff organise the learning environment well to help children make independent choices in their play. Children thrive on the positive interactions from staff, who know their interests well. Staff make accurate assessments, detailing the progress that children make. They use the information gained from their observations well to plan for children's future learning. Staff identify effectively where children may need further support, to enhance their already good levels of progress. Activities are interesting and children are motivated to learn. Children particularly enjoy being creative and playing imaginatively. They create and construct greeting cards using various media, materials and writing tools.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All children, including children in receipt of funding, make good progress in their personal, social and emotional development. Children are independent and develop the necessary personal care skills to equip them well for the future. They relish opportunities to carry out small tasks, such as making decisions about their play and managing their own personal needs at snack time. This helps them to develop a sense of responsibility, while playing outdoors the children learn about the world around them. They investigate natural materials in the environment and learn to care for living things. This helps children to develop a positive attitude to learning outdoors and promotes their physical well-being. Children receive positive support from staff and consistent praise and encouragement. Children know what is expected of them and demonstrate positive behaviour. For example, children remind each other to be kind and share the resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are beginning to form recognisable letters, which helps to develop their emergent writing skills. They demonstrate that they are making good levels of progress and have positive attitudes to learning. Children are developing the necessary skills, in readiness for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479959
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	984035
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Sarah Jane Howcroft
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07837065896

Tiny Footsteps Day Nursery was registered in 2014. The setting employs five members of childcare staff. All of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12.30pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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