

Holyrood Nursery

Holyrood Nursery, 1 Gaskell Road, ALTRINCHAM, Cheshire, WA14 1JF



Inspection date	17 February 2016
Previous inspection date	2 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Leaders and staff have made significant improvements since the previous inspection and have successfully addressed the recommendations to improve the quality of the provision.
- Children's emotional well-being is well supported. The key-person system is robust. Parents are consistently aware of who their child's key person is, and of their role. Staff highly value the views of children and parents and provide an environment that empowers and engages them.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide opportunities for children to make new investigations. Children are confident, inquisitive learners. They observe things closely through a variety of means, including magnifiers and photographs. They recall past experiences and talk about their favourite things.
- Children's learning is well supported when they start in the nursery. Staff gather detailed information from parents in order to know what children are capable of. Furthermore, children's progress is regularly shared with parents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff performance management is not focused sharply enough on evaluating the quality of teaching, to continually identify areas where teaching practice can be strengthened even further.
- Staff do not use sharply focused assessments to plan meticulously challenging activities to support all children to make rapid progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the performance management arrangements for staff and focus more precisely on enhancing the quality of teaching
- enhance existing assessment procedures to plan meticulously challenging activities and to support all children to make rapid progress in their learning.

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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's 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

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is enthusiastic and has a strong drive to develop the nursery. Together with the staff, she uses effective self-evaluation to identify areas to improve that benefit the children and families who attend. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are trained in child protection and fully understand their responsibilities in protecting children in their care. Clear recruitment and vetting of staff help to ensure children are cared for by a suitable staff team. The manager has recently implemented new procedures to monitor children's progress. These procedures reflect an ongoing picture of children's development and swiftly identify gaps in their progress across all seven areas of learning. Staff attend many training courses and senior managers provide regular in-house training sessions. This helps staff to keep up to date with current changes in legislation.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff show a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. They use this knowledge well to provide stimulating experiences that help children gain the many skills needed for their eventual move to school. Staff interact very well with children, which means they are motivated and enjoy learning. They make independent choices and take an active role, sharing their ideas and making decisions. Children develop good communication skills. Staff use a variety of different ways to promote children's speech. They are quick to identify if children do not make expected progress in this area and direct parents to other professional agencies. Systems for observation and assessment are used to identify children's next steps for learning and to inform planning. Activities are matched to their identified needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour and social skills are good. Staff are excellent role models in encouraging children to recognise their feelings and express themselves. Children cooperate well in play and take care of each other. Staff help children to learn about hygiene practices as they get ready for their snack. For example, staff help children to wash their hands and talk about germs. Children enjoy healthy snacks and happily pour their own water or milk, which contributes to their developing independence. Staff provide a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. Young babies are encouraged to take their first steps. Older children use a variety of large equipment in the outdoor area and invite others into their play. They enjoy a range of activities that helps them learn and understand about each other's differences and other people in the wider world.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and their rate of progress is continually improving. They are confident, independent and enjoy learning. Children are articulate communicators and confident to express themselves. They develop a good grasp of mathematical concepts and competency with their literacy skills. Babies are secure and confident to explore their surroundings. Children are well prepared for their next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370869
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	1012242
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Happitots Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 April 2015
Telephone number	0161 941 7731

Holyrood Nursery was registered in 2008. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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