

Children 1st @ Newark

Torricon House, Muskham Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1DP



Inspection date	16 February 2016
Previous inspection date	4 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 leadership and management team demonstrate an exceptionally strong drive to provide and sustain a high-quality service. Staff benefit from their regular support and guidance. Areas for improvement are quickly identified and successfully addressed. This has resulted in the nursery making excellent progress.
- Children play in a highly stimulating environment, both indoors and outside. They have independent access to an extensive range of exciting resources and equipment. Children consistently show high levels of interest and curiosity as they eagerly participate in activities.
- The quality of teaching is of a consistently high standard. Staff are motivated and enthusiastic. They successfully engage children, with an excellent range of interesting play and learning opportunities. Meticulous planning means that activities reflect children's interests and offer the appropriate levels of challenge.
- Staff form highly successful partnerships with parents, who are fully involved in their children's care and learning. Information is frequently exchanged and they work together to maintain excellent outcomes for children.
- Children behave exceptionally well. The learning environment is calm and harmonious. Staff are excellent role models for children, with clear and consistent expectations.
- The key-person system is very effective. Children have developed highly nurturing and secure relationships with staff. They are settled, happy and exceptionally well prepared for their next stage in learning.
- Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. Should staff have any safeguarding concerns about children, procedures are robust and clear to follow.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already established two-way flow of communication with other settings that children attend, in order to further promote the excellent continuity for children's progress and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, both indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery leaders and manager. 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

Claire Jenner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. High regard is paid to children's safety and welfare. Staff complete safeguarding training and an extensive range of detailed policies and procedures effectively underpins their practice. Established and highly effective systems are in place to monitor the impact of nursery practice on children's progress and learning experiences. Self-evaluation is thorough and includes the views of staff, children and parents. Recently, managers have identified the potential to consider even better ways to work in partnership with other settings, where older children also attend. Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the excellent balance of care and education their children receive. Supervision meetings are regular and highly effective in ensuring staff's ongoing professional development and improving outcomes for children. The manager is highly supportive of staff and shares the knowledge gained through her qualifications and experience to excellent effect.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff know children exceptionally well. Planning and assessment arrangements are sharply focused on each child's needs to ensure they make rapid progress. Children demonstrate a strong desire to explore and participate in the exciting and interesting activities, indoors and outside. Staff actively play alongside children, offering superb levels of interaction. Staff inspire children's interest as they excitedly discuss the properties of ice. Children are encouraged to solve problems as they consider the best tool to 'Free' the toys trapped inside. Staff place a strong emphasis on promoting children's communication and language skills. They skilfully tailor their approach for individuals and groups of children. Staff animatedly talk to babies during activities and everyday routines. They repeat single words and phrases, expertly increasing the complexity to extend children's understanding.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff consistently nurture children's independence skills and sense of responsibility. Children show great care and consideration for each other. Young children help to find their own coat and each other's coats before playing outside. Older children thrive with the responsibility as they enthusiastically carry out various tasks. They show a strong sense of pride and achievement as they describe in detail their role of 'Buddy' and how they help others. Children have a strong sense of belonging and clearly understand about people's similarities and differences. Staff promote children's physical well-being and sense of safety exceptionally well. They make excellent use of the large and excitingly resourced outdoor play space. Children regularly participate in discussions about the safe use of equipment, such as climbing frames and woodwork tools. Staff seize every opportunity to help children learn the importance of healthy eating during daily routines and activities.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points. They rapidly learn new skills and knowledge that fully support their next stage in learning. Children are exceptionally well prepared for their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253341
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1027941
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 - 9
Total number of places	90
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	Breedon House Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	4 January 2013
Telephone number	01636 611 914

Children 1st @ Newark was registered in 1997. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including the manager who has Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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