

M & S Nurseries

Century House, West Parade, Halifax, HX1 2TE



Inspection date	1 March 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 support children's communication and language skills well, assessing their language development regularly. They use a wide range of strategies, such as modelling good language. This gives all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, the opportunity to effectively communicate their knowledge, ideas and needs.
- Staff are deployed effectively to ensure that children receive good levels of supervision and interaction. Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe, which means that they can identify and respond to any concerns they may have.
- The key-person system is effective, as all staff are clear about their role in helping children form secure emotional attachments. Staff know their unique preferences and things that comfort them. They ensure that these are readily available, which helps children to settle and feel at ease. This promotes children's emotional well-being.
- Staff work very well with external agencies and other professionals to meet the needs of disabled children and those with special educational needs. Staff implement clear individual support plans to help ensure that children receive the appropriate support.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always gather in-depth information from parents about children's achievements, interests and learning at home on entry and on an ongoing basis, in order to enable them to plan around children's wider experiences.
- Although assessment of individual children is good, the provider has not yet established a highly successful system to monitor and review the progress of different groups of children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen ways to help parents share what they know their children can do at home, on entry into the nursery and on an ongoing basis
- build further on arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children and checking that all groups receive the support they need to increase the potential for them to achieve at the highest possible levels.

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 held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's assessment records and planning documentation.

Inspector

Shirley Maynard

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate they have a secure understanding of the policies for child protection and the steps they need to take to report any concerns about a child in their care. The premises are appropriately organised and staff make daily checks of the premises to help keep children safe. Managers and staff continually reflect on practice and develop robust action plans, in order to enable them to respond to children's changing needs. Regular staff supervision is undertaken, in order to raise children's achievements to the next level. Overall, partnerships with parents are good. Parents have continuous access to children's learning records and comment that they are very happy with the care and learning provided for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced and well-qualified staff demonstrate consistently good, and sometimes outstanding, teaching skills. They engage positively in children's play and activities, enhancing learning opportunities. Staff make good use of accurate assessments of children's progress to plan the next steps in their learning. Children love to listen to stories and join in counting with enthusiasm. Outside play is highly valued, supporting children who prefer an outdoor learning environment. Staff know when to intervene to provide children with further levels of challenge or to extend their play. Staff in the baby room give young children a secure base from which they can explore. For example, babies discover different textures as they experiment with sand and shaving foam. Pre-school children's literacy and writing skills are well supported. They have opportunities to recognise sounds and letters and practise their early writing skills in the construction area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The strong, inclusive atmosphere of the nursery helps to ensure that the active promotion of equality and diversity, along with tolerance and respect, underpins daily practice. Through purposeful staff interaction, children learn to share and take turns, developing their good levels of self-esteem and confidence. Staff make effective use of all opportunities to promote children's development of independence and self-care skills. This helps even the youngest children to contribute towards their self-care. Children enjoy learning about the world and the wider community. They enjoy walks in the local area and regularly visit local shops. Children's understanding of healthy lifestyles is supported well. They are provided with a wide variety of nutritious snacks and home-cooked meals and discuss the benefits of healthy eating. Children's physical development is promoted as they balance, climb and use wheeled toys. This helps to support their good health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate a real sense of ownership in the nursery environment, confidently accessing resources and different play areas. They are motivated learners, who actively contribute their own ideas to shape their experiences. Children are acquiring the key skills required for their next stage in learning, including their future move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478337
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	977579
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 - 8
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	128
Name of provider	Michelle Anne Cook
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07983149583

M & S Nurseries was registered in 2014. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 6pm, all year round except for one week between Christmas and New Year and bank holidays. The breakfast club sessions are from 7.30am until 8.45am, and the after-school club is from 3.15pm until 6pm. A holiday club runs during the school holidays from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery receives funding for the provision of early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those who have special educational needs.

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