

Sunbeams Atherton

Manor House, 23 Bolton Old Road, Atherton, MANCHESTER, M46 9DF



Inspection date

7 April 2016

Previous inspection date

28 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	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

- The monitoring of the educational programme is good. Managers and staff use a range of systems to help them track children's good progress across all areas of their learning and development.
- Staff are well qualified and have a good knowledge of how children learn and develop. They make effective use of their skills and understanding to provide a varied range of challenging activities which interest and motivate children.
- Staff use several different ways to keep parents well informed about children's learning and development. They gather and share information with parents effectively. This creates a consistent approach to meeting the care and learning needs of children.
- Children's behaviour is very good. Staff use effective behaviour management strategies to promote children's understanding of how to conduct themselves. Children respond well to praise and encouragement. Staff teach them to have respect for others and children are well mannered and polite.
- Staff are kind and caring towards children and successfully support their emotional well-being. Children feel safe and secure in the staff's care and are growing in confidence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring procedures for staff performance are not focused enough on raising the quality of their teaching to an even higher level.
- Staff have not fully considered how to enable children to access the interesting range of technological equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the process for monitoring staff performance and focus more precisely on helping staff to develop expert knowledge and skills in teaching
- provide children with even more opportunities to explore the wide variety of technology available within the nursery.

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 deputy nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to the provider, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's learning records and planning. She looked at policies and procedures, self-evaluation and focused improvement plans and checked evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children from questionnaires and from the letters and cards sent to the nursery.

Inspector

Emma Barrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Policies and procedures are regularly discussed and reviewed. Staff are confident in the actions to take should a child be at risk of harm or abuse. The manager ensures that children are supervised effectively and ratios are always met. Children's attendance is examined closely to help ensure continuity of learning and support for children and families, as necessary. The manager and staff use effective tracking tools to support children, particularly in the area of speech and language. Staff participate in regular professional development which has helped them to effectively address the weaknesses identified at the last inspection. For example, after undertaking training, staff now ask children more-purposeful questions to help them think critically. Staff recruitment is robust. Effective induction procedures help to ensure that staff understand their roles and responsibilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of children's skills which gives them a good knowledge of each child's abilities. They effectively plan activities based on their understanding of children's next steps and interests. This helps children to engage in play for extended periods of time and enhances their knowledge and skills. Staff effectively support children's early literacy skills. Older children form letters correctly and younger children experiment with the marks they can make with different materials, such as chalk and shaving foam. Mathematics is well promoted and staff use lots of different opportunities to support this area of learning. Children use numbers and counting effectively as part of their daily play. Staff have high expectations of what children are able to achieve.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff effectively support children's growing independence. Children are competent in undertaking tasks for themselves and managing their own personal needs, relevant to their age. They play in well-resourced indoor and outdoor environments, which keeps them stimulated in play. Children are engaging in healthy lifestyles and their physical well-being is promoted well. They are offered a range of healthy meals and participate in regular exercise. Children are very happy, confident and comfortable within the nursery. It is homely, welcoming and inviting. The effective key-person system supports children's well-being as they join the nursery. For example, detailed information is gathered from parents when children first start. This helps staff to tailor the individual care and learning needs required for each child. Staff share information with parents and find out about routines children follow at home.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their development and are active and keen learners. Staff successfully meet the individual care needs of each child and children have a good basis on which they can thrive. When children are ready to move on to school, staff work closely with children and teachers to support them emotionally through the change.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY456178
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1028677
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 - 6
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	94
Name of provider	Sunbeams Atherton Ltd
Date of previous inspection	28 June 2013
Telephone number	01942 875 191

Sunbeams Atherton was registered in 2013. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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