

Stockton House School

Stockton House School, Stockton Avenue, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 4NS



Inspection date

13 April 2016

Previous inspection date

2 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 manager is dedicated to her role and successfully leads her team. She is extremely confident in evaluating the nursery's practice and planning for improvements that promote secure outcomes for children attending. Equality and diversity are promoted extremely well.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of all children's individual needs. They provide wide-ranging activities that fully support children's learning and their willingness to take part in activities. Children thrive in their care and are very confident to lead their play.
- The manager has comprehensive systems to monitor children's progress. Staff confidently make interventions if needed to ensure any gaps in learning are closing.
- The quality of teaching and assessment is outstanding. Staff are enthusiastic and interact extremely well with the children to encourage their learning. Staff have an excellent understanding of children's starting points, and moves through the age group rooms are planned for meticulously. Children make rapid progress in their development.
- Children are active learners and thoroughly enjoy their day at nursery. They play contently, imaginatively and with a purpose, indoors and outdoors. Children benefit from an extremely challenging and stimulating learning environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the regular opportunities for children during story time to enable them to participate in different ways.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outdoors, and during their interactions with staff.
- The inspector met with the senior team to discuss how staff plan for children's learning and how staff work with parents and others involved in children's care.
- The inspector sampled the manager's documentation and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager. She spoke with the manager and deputy about how staff are supported in their roles, and the opportunities for staff to develop their skills.
- The inspector discussed with the manager how staff evaluate their provision of care and priorities for future learning.

Inspector

Aileen Finan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager values the views of parents and staff to drive continual improvement. Staff use risk assessments, policies and procedures to promote children's health and safety very effectively. Comprehensive systems for recruitment and training maintain the highest levels of professional development, and secure excellent outcomes for children. Staff speak passionately about how, for example, training to support skills in working with parents has had a positive impact on practice. Staff have highly effective partnerships with other professionals. These promote the strategies for children when additional funding or additional support is required, and helps all children to meet their potential. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure understanding of child protection.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is of a consistently high standard. Staff have a high focus on supporting children's communication skills. Training to encourage this has enabled staff to help children listen and speak confidently and to learn language skills, although sometimes opportunities for engaging children in different ways during story times are missed. Nevertheless, staff are dynamic and confident. They are excellent role models and encourage children to participate through their purposeful interactions. Children are extremely ready for the next stages of their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have plenty of fun and are eager to learn. They have extremely warm bonds with staff, and show that they are emotionally secure in their care. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They fully understand the routines of the day and expectations for their behaviour. The versatile outdoor environment and local outings mean that children receive plenty of fresh air and support for their physical development. Staff offer excellent opportunities for children to explore and experiment, and to develop independence. Staff are highly supportive in ensuring children learn about healthy eating and effective hygiene practices. Children develop high levels of confidence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy the large 'digging' area around the large fir tree. They relish using bricks, shovels and wheelbarrows to explore. They play imaginatively, pretending to cook for the 'monster' coming for lunch. Children develop dexterity, such as by playing with bats and balls or learning how to swing and climb in the pirate ship. They pedal cars and scooters, and are extremely patient waiting for their turn. Children learn about beat and rhythm, concentrating as they tap out the sounds of their name on African drums. Children play very cooperatively in their make-believe world, interacting in the well-resourced hair salon, developing social skills through role play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299577
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	837669
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	109
Name of provider	Stocktonia Ltd
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2010
Telephone number	01252 616323

Stockton House School first opened in 1968 and re-registered in 2005. It operates from classrooms in a mansion house, in Fleet, Hampshire. The nursery opens weekdays during term times. On Monday to Thursday, the normal day is 9am to 3pm with an extended day of 8.30am to 3.30pm on request. On Friday, the nursery opens from 8.45am to 2pm with an extended start time of 8.30am if requested. There are 27 staff in total, with 19 staff working directly with children. Of these, 17 staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications. The manager has a degree in Early Years with Early Years Professional Status and the Deputy manager is a qualified teacher. The nursery is in receipt of funded places for children aged two, three and four years.

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