

The Old Rectory at Moorcroft Grange

Moorcroft Grange, Bursley Road, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST6 3DQ



Inspection date	25 May 2016
Previous inspection date	19 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 have made rapid improvement since the last inspection and considerable improvements have been made to the recruitment procedures and the security of the premises. The implementation of effective training, support and supervision has had a positive impact on staff's practice.
- Children are very happy and well settled. Staff are caring and dedicated and have worked extremely hard to provide a stimulating and resource rich environment. The highly effective key-person system takes account of children's preferences, helping to ensure that their emotional well-being is effectively nurtured.
- Staff treat children and their families with respect and value their individuality. Parents are kept well informed about their children's progress through a good range of communications and daily handovers.
- Staff have high expectations of all children based on their knowledge and assessment of their development and educational starting points. Children are keen to learn, are excited and enthusiastic to take part in a wide range of stimulating activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The new system for tracking children's progress is not always monitored fully by managers; therefore there are occasions when assessments are not always accurate. However, staffs good knowledge of what children can do means there is minimal impact on children's progress.
- Staff records are not effectively organised in a way that makes them easily assessable.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the current systems for monitoring children's progress to ensure all recorded information is accurate
- review the system for monitoring and keeping staff files, to ensure they are well organised and easily accessible.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors reviewed the improvements leaders have made since the last inspection and their plans for future improvement.
- The inspectors held meetings with the provider and the manager. The inspectors spoke to other staff members about their roles and responsibilities.
- The inspectors looked at a range of relevant documents, which included a selection of policies and procedures, the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and staff files.
- The inspectors completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspectors spoke to and received written correspondence from several parents whose views were taken into account during the inspection.

Inspector

Deborah Sanders and Johanna Holt Early Years Regulatory Inspectors

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have very good knowledge of the signs of abuse and what to do if they have a concern about a child in their care. The environment is safe, suitable and secure. Staff assess all areas before children arrive and are mindful of their safety throughout the day. Leaders place a high priority on the professional development of staff and monitor their progress regularly. This has had a major, positive impact on their teaching practice, which improves opportunities for children to learn. Leaders gather the views and opinions of staff, parents and children to drive further improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a good range of activities that support children's learning through play. They gather information from parents about their individual needs and use this to establish the starting points in their learning. Staff observe, assess and track children's progress effectively and this leads to them identifying the next steps in their learning. Staff ask children a wide range of questions that challenge them to think about and process an answer. For example, they ask children where apples come from; they talk about trees and seeds and compare the size and shape with other fruits. Staff correctly prioritise children's developing language and communication skills. They repeat phrases and teach rhymes which help them to develop clear patterns of speech. Children listen carefully to the sounds that different instruments make and if they make a loud or a soft sound. Staff encourage children to appreciate living creatures as they handle and feed the giant snails with great excitement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident, capable and developing good independence skills. They are encouraged to do things for themselves, such as serving their own lunch, putting on their coat and washing and drying their hands when they use the bathroom. Children enjoy the woodland room where the rabbits come out to play which encourages them to take turns and care for other living things as well as concern for each other. They spend time in the extensive gardens where they enjoy extended problem solving activities in the new maths hut. Children learn a good range of physical skills as they negotiate the large steps and the climbing equipment. Staff recognise when children need more stimulation and challenge. They use the well laid out open plan play room to encourage children to explore all of the different areas. Younger children enjoy a wide range of sensory opportunities as they explore objects with different textures in the sensory room.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are developing a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards learning. Staff support them to carry out simple jobs such as helping with snack preparation, pouring drinks and cutting up fruit. Children of all abilities, including those who received funded education and those with special educational needs, are making good progress and are being well prepared for the next stage in their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479242
Local authority	Stoke on Trent
Inspection number	1048176
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	The Old Rectory Kindergarten Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903959
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016
Telephone number	01782 827000

The Old Rectory at Moorcroft Grange was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 8 hold appropriate early years qualifications that range from level 2 to level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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