

Next Steps Community Nursery CIC

Waterloo Primary School, Crosby Road North, LIVERPOOL, L22 0LD



Inspection date	11 May 2016
Previous inspection date	16 January 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 key-person system is highly effective and staff know their key children extremely well. They respond sensitively to children's individual needs and differentiate activities to meet them. Children are supported to settle quickly and they feel at ease.
- Children have access to a safe and stimulating learning environment. Staff provide children with a wide range of experiences, both indoors and outside, that builds effectively upon their existing interests and experiences.
- The managers are committed to their individual roles. They continually review their practice, in order to make ongoing improvements and enhance the quality of the provision.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Staff communicate regularly with parents and provide excellent opportunities to discuss children's progress and development. Parents are supported to extend children's learning at home.
- Children are very well prepared for their next stage in learning and eventual move to school. Staff plan daily opportunities for phonics, literacy and mathematics in a way that is fun and engaging. Children make very good progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help staff to make better use of opportunities to extend and challenge children's thinking skills during activities.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the deputy manager and provider. 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

Nadine McCarthy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff display an extremely clear understanding of child protection policies and how to promote children's safety and welfare. Effective systems are in place to monitor and support staff practice. They have identified where staff can develop their practice even further by consistently encouraging children to try and solve problems for themselves. Staff have many opportunities to attend training and reflect on their own practice. The staff team is very enthusiastic and works together effectively as a team. The provider has established very good relationships with local schools and other settings. She seeks guidance from the local authority and consultants, in order to reflect on practice and make improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are well qualified and have a very secure knowledge of how young children learn. The nursery teacher uses her expertise to plan a wide range of interesting activities that support children's next steps in learning. She effectively monitors the quality of interactions and supports staff with completing assessments accurately. This enables staff to provide swift interventions where necessary. Staff communicate sensitively with children. They successfully model language and reinforce the initial sounds in words. Children have exciting opportunities to learn about life cycles and living things. They listen intently to stories and recall facts they have learnt from information books. They discuss and share their knowledge about how to care for animals. Staff provide activities that engage children's interests and imaginations. Staff support children to use their problem-solving skills outdoors and practise their counting skills in the pretend baker's shop.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff meet with parents and children before they start at the nursery to complete initial assessments and discuss settling-in arrangements. Children's emotional needs are then further nurtured through small-group times each day. These enable children to develop close attachments with staff and support their confidence and well-being effectively. Children display extremely high levels of involvement in both self-chosen and planned activities. This is because staff expertly match experiences to suit children's ages and stages of development. Children display an excellent understanding of the boundaries and how to behave. They take pride in assisting staff with daily tasks and jobs, such as cleaning the paint easels. Staff consistently review the organisation of the learning environment and add enhancements to reflect children's interests. Children have a wealth of opportunities to be active and develop their physical skills. They are encouraged to be independent and understand the importance of healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make very good progress in all areas of their learning. Additional funding is used very well to support learning and enhance the knowledge of staff. Children display a positive attitude to new experiences and a keen motivation to learn. They learn to develop exceptionally good social skills and to communicate effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430304
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	850191
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	78
Name of provider	Next Steps Community Nursery CIC
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2012
Telephone number	0151 928 8808

Next Steps Community Nursery CIC was registered in 2011. The nursery employs eight members of staff. Of these, one staff member holds qualified teacher status and seven staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery is open 8am until 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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