

Forward Steps (Yorkshire) Ltd

123-127 Summer Lane, Wombwell, BARNSELEY, South Yorkshire, S73 8TU



Inspection date

30 June 2016

Previous inspection date

17 December 2012

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

- Superb care and learning for children who have special educational needs helps them to make excellent progress from their starting points. Staff are highly proactive in coordinating multi-agency services. They provide exceptional support for parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- Some staff provide outstanding learning opportunities for children. They capture children's interests and their enthusiasm makes learning fun. For example, children enjoy observing people at work outside of the nursery and staff help them to make connections to their own lives.
- A well-established key-person system helps children to form strong bonds with staff. Practitioners offer high levels of support for children's transitions, both within the setting and to prepare them for the move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always help children to think about why things happen. For example, they do not encourage children to think about why water overflows if poured from a large container into a smaller one.
- The provider reviews staff's practice and encourages them to access training to improve their knowledge. However, development opportunities do not always focus precisely enough on enhancing staff's individual teaching skills. As a result, some groups of children are not supported to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children to think in more depth about how and why things happen
- focus professional development opportunities more sharply and support all staff to develop their teaching skills to a higher level.

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 joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including 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

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Rigorous recruitment procedures and ongoing monitoring checks ensure that staff are suitable for their role. The nursery has a well-qualified staff team. Ratios are met at all times and children are supervised well. The premises are very well maintained. Areas children use are organised well and suitably equipped. Information about children is stored securely. Policies are in place to support confidentiality and these are adhered to. Staff have a good awareness of child protection issues and know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child or adult. The provider involves staff, parents, children and other professionals in evaluating the service they provide. Targeted action plans help to promote continual improvement. Staff are proactive in building partnerships with others to share appropriate information about children's progress. Additional funding is used very effectively to support the needs of the most disadvantaged children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy leading their own play and exploring. A strong focus on communication and language helps children to develop rapidly in this area. Sign language is used very effectively by staff and children. Children who speak English as an additional language quickly develop a good level of English. Toddlers take pleasure from interactions with staff during singing and action rhymes. Children learn about the world around them. They visit the local supermarket to make bread and choose books from the library. They explore changes as they monitor the life cycle of frogs. Newsletters inform parents of what topics are coming up in the following term and parents are given ideas for working with children at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know children well and tailor their care to their individual needs. Children make strong friendships and frequently talk about people who are special to them. Staff support their developing independence well. Children behave well. Appropriate behaviour management strategies are shared with parents to promote consistency and develop children's understanding of right and wrong. Children enjoy a varied menu of nutritious, home-cooked meals and healthy snacks and drinks. They develop a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and how to manage risks and challenges. Children develop their physical skills well and learn to play safely. Staff provide regular opportunities for children to climb and balance as they use play equipment in the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well in all areas of learning, given their individual starting points. Children develop excellent literacy skills. They are able to read and write familiar words. They understand that information can be found in a variety of forms, such as recipe cards. Children build on their understanding of mathematics throughout their play. Children show high levels of confidence in social situations. They develop a positive sense of themselves and their place in the world. This wide range of skills contributes to children being well prepared for their future learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446537
Local authority	Barnsley
Inspection number	1055037
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	97
Name of registered person	Forward Steps (Yorkshire) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907868
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2012
Telephone number	01226 934 724

Forward Steps (Yorkshire) Ltd nursery was registered in 2012. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 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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