

The Poplars Nursery School Ltd

Portland Court, Sherwood, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG5 6EX



Inspection date

22 July 2016

Previous inspection date

13 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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 management team has worked hard to improve the provision since the last inspection. All previous actions and recommendations have been addressed. Ongoing improvements are identified by regularly observing practice and gathering information from parents. This helps the management team to continually reflect on the overall quality of the nursery.
- Staff are highly successful in working in partnership with parents. They develop positive relationships and work with them to promote children's learning and development in the nursery and at home.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide an interesting and varied range of adult-led activities that motivates and challenges children. They encourage children to solve problems in their play and to talk about and express their needs.
- Children's emotional well-being is successfully promoted. Settling-in periods and when children move from room to room within the nursery are managed sensitively in partnership with parents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although, staff support children's next steps in learning, this is not always consistent enough throughout the day to raise their achievements to a higher level.
- Younger children who prefer to be outdoors have fewer opportunities to take part in rich and varied learning experiences in the playground area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus teaching more effectively on consistently supporting children's next steps in learning
- provide those younger children who prefer to be outdoors with a more varied and stimulating range of learning opportunities.

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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery managers.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's policies and procedures, training certificates 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

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures to follow to report any concerns they may have about a child's welfare. The managers accurately analyse the progress children are making. This helps them to identify any gaps in children's learning and allows staff to set priorities for individual children. As a result, children are supported to make good progress in their learning. The managers are aware of the importance of ensuring the staff team remains skilled and knowledgeable. Staff have access to regular supervisions and are encouraged to extend their knowledge of childcare. Staff meetings ensure that staff are kept abreast of relevant changes. This has a positive impact on the quality of care and learning children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well qualified and experienced staff carefully observe what children can do and check on the progress they are making. They help children to explore their environment and local community. Children use magnifying glasses and binoculars to look for and explore insects in the garden. They learn about people who help them when the local fire department visit the nursery and when staff take them to see the hospital. Children have opportunities to take books home to support their early literacy skills. Parents comment that they are very happy at the progress their children are making and appreciate the friendly staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy regular opportunities to be physically active. Younger children jump on chalk numbers on the ground. Older children use large-climbing apparatus and ride-on toys. They behave well and show care and respect to other children and staff. They play harmoniously together, sharing toys and taking turns. All children demonstrate their awareness of boundaries and help staff to tidy away toys after use. Children develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They know to blow on food that is too hot and to wear sun hats before playing outside. The nursery chef provides children with a range of healthy meals and snacks. Staff promote children's choices and independence. Older children pour their own drinks and vote for which colour they would like to see on the walls in the toilets. Staff ask babies to point to resources, allowing them to choose what they would like to play with.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children are confident and inquisitive learners. They demonstrate that they are happy and confident in the nursery. Older children develop good literacy skills and many are reading. Most know the letters of the alphabet and write their name on artwork. Children listen to stories and count the number of dinosaurs they see in the picture, counting to eight. They are learning key skills in readiness for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257438
Local authority	Nottingham City
Inspection number	1025476
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 - 4
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	The Poplars Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP521327
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2015
Telephone number	0115 9676051

The Poplars Nursery School Ltd was registered in 1993. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one at level 5, one at level 6, including one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 49 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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