

Stretton Lodge Pre-School and Day Nursery

School Lane, Stretton, Staffordshire, ST19 9LJ



Inspection date	16 August 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 leadership team offers good support to the manager and deputy manager to help children succeed and build on what has been achieved already. The experienced manager places a clear priority on ensuring the quality of experiences on offer and teaching is consistently good.
- Staff provide a challenging environment which is well maintained and vibrant and offers an exciting range of experiences.
- Staff observe children sensitively and extend their curiosity and learning, which helps them make good progress.
- Staff skilfully promote the children's language development and effectively target those who have been identified as needing additional support.
- Staff build close relationships with their assigned key children and their parents. The move between rooms is carefully managed to help children who feel anxious and promote their emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Self-evaluation is not used incisively to help identify further areas for development and raise the quality of teaching and care to an even higher level.
- Staff do not always make the best possible use of relevant activities to help children increase their understanding of calculation or to practise their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of self-evaluation and identify more precisely areas for further development, in order to raise the quality of teaching and care to an exceptional level
- focus more sharply on raising even further the children's achievement in calculation and early writing skills.

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 carried out a joint observation with the manager and held a meeting with the business manager and provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of a small selection of parents from written feedback provided to the nursery.

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager works alongside the staff and has an accurate overview of the quality of teaching. She uses this time well to coach staff effectively to help them improve their skills. Staff are well qualified and deployed effectively to help meet the needs of children. Staff are positive about the arrangements in place for staff supervision and the training opportunities made available to them. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. There are robust vetting systems in place to help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a good knowledge of the possible signs of abuse and neglect to help them respond at the earliest opportunity.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know what motivates individual children and how they learn in different ways. They plan well for children's particular interests. Consequently, children show sustained levels of concentration and enjoyment in what is provided. Pre-school staff place a clear focus on ensuring children have opportunities to talk and listen to each other. For example, children confidently discuss the weather and sun safety and talk about their personal experiences with each other. Activities have a clear learning intention and are used effectively to build on what children already know. The knowledgeable staff team skilfully introduces new words and concepts during activities and repeats words to help increase children's vocabulary. Staff offer an inspiring range of resources that quickly captures children's interest and helps them develop a positive attitude towards learning. Staff use the outdoor area well to offer children the freedom to explore, use their senses and be physically active.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a genuine bond with children and give good priority to ensuring they gain a sense of well-being. Staff encourage children to take responsibility and help with manageable tasks that interest them. Staff regularly consult with children and seek their ideas about activities and their interests. Staff caring for babies know their individual routines well and ensure they are followed and that care needs are well met. Staff provide good first-hand experiences for children to help grow fresh vegetables, which are used to make dishes, such as soup. Children learn about the benefits of eating healthily and that exercise is good for their bodies. Children learn how to use tools safely, such as hammers and nails, and manage the risk involved. They learn about the role of the emergency services and how to keep safe in their environment.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and acquire the key skills required in preparation for school. They show care and concern for others, learn to respect one another and are well behaved. They show a good interest in counting and weight, capacity and measures. The most-able children show a fondness for linking letters and sounds. Children who have special educational needs or disability make good progress given their starting points. These children receive targeted support from the staff, who work closely with other professionals working with the children to meet their needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY491121
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1028872
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Soden Educo Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534733
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07973982864

Stretton Lodge Pre-School and Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8.15am until 5.45pm and there is an option for breakfast care from 7.30am, if required. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one has early years professional status, one has a qualification at level 6, one at level 5 and three at level 3.

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