

Footsteps Nursery Cannock



Bridge Court, Orbital Plaza, Watling Street, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 0DQ

Inspection date	23 August 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Management of the nursery is highly successful. The strong leadership team is extremely thorough in planning and documenting all aspects of this provision. They are very focused in their supervision and support of staff. Excellent use of training and mentoring helps to extend the practice of staff to a high level.
- The quality of teaching is excellent. Staff work exceptionally well together to captivate children's interests. They encourage and praise children's efforts which raises their self-esteem and confidence.
- Experienced and well-qualified staff make regular observations to identify what children know and can do. Children engage in small and large group activities which are carefully planned. These activities focus precisely on children's individual learning needs and interests. This helps them to build on their skills and knowledge rapidly.
- The highly stimulating and nurturing environment helps to develop children's independence and decision making from a very early age. Children have opportunities to direct their own learning by choosing from well organised, high-quality resources, appropriate for the age and stage of the children.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. They listen carefully to adults and learn to manage their feelings. Adults are extremely good role models which helps to teach children to be kind and show respect to others.
- Partnerships with parents are highly valued. Parents are provided with a multitude of ways to provide feedback which is swiftly acted upon. There are regular opportunities to share information on children's progress. Parents are offered 'hands on' sessions to learn about ways in which to support their child's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the impact of the systems for sharing excellent practice throughout the nursery and evaluate the impact on children's learning.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents, looked at parent comments, testimonials and questionnaires during the inspection, and took into account their views.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff participate in thorough training to continuously boost their awareness of the safeguarding requirements, child protection procedures and current legislation. Staff, parents and children are constantly involved in the in-depth self-evaluation of the nursery. This ensures that actions for improvement are extremely well targeted and always highly ambitious. The provider recognises the importance of evaluating the systems to review the sharing of excellent practice between staff to help maintain the outstanding provision. The management team work very closely with staff to monitor children's progress. Precise assessments help to swiftly identify and address any gaps in children's development. Staff have established excellent links with primary schools in the area. They have strong links with external professionals to ensure that children's emerging needs are promptly supported.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Enthusiastic and committed staff plan a wide range of stimulating and interesting activities for children of all ages. They skilfully observe, listen carefully and promote children's thinking skills during activities and discussion. Older children demonstrate their understanding of keeping healthy. Following the instructions of staff, they take turns to move in different ways on an obstacle course. Children check their pulse and talk about why exercise is good for them. Outside, younger children enjoy working together to move a parachute. They dig with spades and fill buckets with sand to make sandcastles. Staff support their mathematical development as they talk to the children about size and capacity. Babies share close and caring relationships with their key person. They confidently explore different objects in the environment, such as shiny balls and wooden shapes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely content and happy. A highly effective key-person system helps children to settle well. For example, the use of home visits and tailored sessions allow staff to gather information to meet the needs of individual children. Staff fully contribute to children's health and well-being. Children have nutritious meals and snacks. They are taught from an early age to manage their personal hygiene and needs. Outdoor environments within the nursery and the local area are exceptionally well used. They provide many opportunities for children to explore, experiment and develop their physical skills. The nursery makes excellent use of the knowledge and skills of parents to help children understand about the wider world. Children learn that other children have different family traditions and sometimes speak different languages.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their individual starting points and are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Older children develop an interest in early mathematics, literacy and science. Younger children are keen and active learners. Babies are rapidly gaining very good communication and language skills as they talk, share books and sing songs with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484984
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1000480
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	149
Name of registered person	Footsteps Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520741
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01543 509089

Footsteps Nursery Cannock was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and four at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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