

Skylarks Nursery and Out of School Care



Windermere Avenue, FLEETWOOD, Lancashire, FY7 8QB

Inspection date

15 September 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: 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 energetic and dynamic staff are highly skilled at inspiring children to play and explore. Children thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery and develop a thirst for learning.
- The passionate and inspirational manager has extremely high aspirations and expectations of what children can achieve. She believes that all children deserve the best start in life. She shares her ambitious vision with staff and inspires them to continuously improve.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs or disability and those who speak English as an additional language, are extremely well prepared for school.
- Highly successful strategies are used to engage parents in their children's learning. Staff provide excellent ideas for activities for parents to use at home. This has a significant impact on the excellent progress that children are making.
- The highly dedicated and committed staff provide an environment that is nurturing and welcoming. They value and respect each child's contributions and inspire them to be confident in their own abilities.
- All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications and attend ongoing, highly targeted training and supervision to support their specialist roles within the nursery. This underpins staff's exceptional knowledge and understanding of how to identify and plan for each child's unique ways of learning.
- High-quality observations and accurate assessments are used to ensure every child undertakes fun and challenging experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the excellent outdoor environment that enthuses, engages and motivates children's play and 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 nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She looked at a range of other documents, including policies and procedures and the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.

Inspector

Cath Palser

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a confident and highly robust understanding of child protection issues. They know what to do should they have concerns about a child. Staff employ superb strategies to help children understand how to keep themselves safe. The manager rigorously monitors the quality of provision and children's progress. She frequently seeks the views of parents, children and staff, and uses this information to drive constant and significant improvements. The manager has identified further ways to enthuse and stimulate children's natural curiosity and explorative skills in the outdoor area. Superb partnership working is established with parents, schools and other professionals. Additional funding is used highly effectively and this has an extremely positive impact on the excellent progress children are making.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide playful activities that ignite children's interest wonderfully. They invite children to help plan their own play and learning. Children are eager to experiment, discover and develop superb critical thinking skills. Staff make the most of unplanned opportunities to stimulate children's learning. They promote children's language exceptionally well in a variety of ways. Staff use props, gestures and captivating tones and expressions to help capture and stimulate children's interest. They ask questions and give children prompts, suggestions and plenty of time to think and respond. Children show awe and wonder as they explore inside the orange they peel and discover the creatures under the logs. Children show excellent social skills. They are eager to invite their peers to help design their own creations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are superb role models and give children gentle reminders of expectations. Children are eager to undertake small tasks, such as tidying away their resources and helping each other. They are very confident to give their views and opinions and respect those of their peers. Children play together cooperatively and their behaviour is exemplary. They are highly motivated, eager to join in and enthusiastic in their play. Children celebrate each other's achievements. They talk together about how to keep themselves safe. Children develop excellent self-care and independence skills, and are provided with lots of choice throughout the day. Children's physical and emotional well-being is promoted extremely well. They relish the friendships with their peers and the strong bonds and attachments they have with staff. Children are confident and self-assured, and this has an extremely positive impact on their enthusiasm for learning.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are thriving. They are making substantial and sustained progress from their starting points. Staff rapidly identify any gaps in children's learning and implement excellent strategies to promote targeted early support. Children relish participating in activities. They are active and highly enthusiastic learners. Children eagerly contribute their own opinions and talk about their experiences and ideas. They are extremely well prepared for their next stages in learning and in acquiring the skills they need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481495
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	990495
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	2 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Skylarks (Fleetwood) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533977
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01253870900

Skylarks Nursery and Out of School Care was registered in 2014. The nursery and club employ 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications to between level 2 and 6, including one with early years professional status. The nursery operates Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm, for 50 weeks a year, except for bank holidays. The club opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 8.45am and from 3.15pm to 6pm. The holiday club operates during some school holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs or disability.

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