

The Old Bridge Nursery

1 Jubilee Place, High Street North, Shincliffe, Durham, County Durham, DH1 2NJ



Inspection date

13 December 2016

Previous inspection date

9 July 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 extremely committed and highly dedicated staff team has worked exceptionally hard since the previous inspection. The passionate manager and excellent staff team have successfully raised the quality of the provision to the highest level. Meticulous action plans are created from very precise self-evaluation procedures. These are extremely effective in capturing the views of others.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Parents speak extremely highly of the leaders and staff team. Parents are immensely involved in all aspects of children's care and development needs. This helps to provide an excellent continued approach to children's learning.
- Staff provide children with a very wide range of activities to encourage their physical skills. For example, children are highly actively involved in an outdoors project run by staff using the local woodlands. Children learn how to build dens, climb and confidently move in a variety of ways. They talk very enthusiastically about what they have been doing and demonstrate this to others.
- Children make excellent progress. They display exceptional social skills. Children work harmoniously with each other to solve simple problems and create new ideas. They are very well equipped with the key skills needed for future learning and the eventual move on to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the impact of the implementation of the new assessment systems on the excellent learning made by different groups of children.

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 held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, including the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and staff place a huge emphasis on providing an extremely safe and secure environment for children to thrive in. Extensive and detailed policies and procedures are in place which are continuously reviewed and updated to reflect current guidance. Children are provided with tremendous opportunities to devise their own risk assessments. They talk assertively about when it is safe to take risks in their play. Supervision sessions are highly detailed. Leaders work very closely with staff to review the remarkable quality of practice. Training opportunities are individually tailored to build on the already excellent strengths of staff and provide support for any identified areas of improvement. Excellent partnerships with other early years providers are in place. Teachers from local schools visit children in the nursery environment. Staff share detailed information about each child's individual needs and interests. This helps to provide very effective transition arrangements. There are detailed assessments in place to track children's progress. Leaders now intend to implement even more precise monitoring systems to analyse the progress made by different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is superb. The exceptional and highly qualified staff team demonstrate a vast understanding of how children learn. Extremely rich and plentiful activities are provided for children following highly accurate observations from which staff capture children's interests. This information helps to identify what children need to learn next. Children's imaginative skills are exceptionally well nurtured. Staff read stories to children with great enthusiasm and encourage them to become fully immersed in the tale. For example, staff plan outings where children discover toy dinosaurs from a well-loved story. Following this, children create their own storybook linked to their exciting adventures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Settling-in procedures are superb. Staff have extremely effective systems in place to gather information from parents about what their children know and can already do. Introductory sessions are tailored to expertly meet the individual needs of children. Children are immensely well behaved. They are exceptionally polite and well mannered. Children are provided with wholesome and nutritious foods and are given excellent opportunities to learn about how to lead a healthy lifestyle. Hygiene practices are followed to the highest standard. Children are provided with remarkable opportunities to develop their independence skills and tend to their own self-care needs.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress in all areas of learning. They are inquisitive learners and demonstrate deep motivation to learn. Excellent questioning techniques are used to encourage children to think about different ways of doing things and extend their learning even further. For example, children confidently use a very wide range of technological resources. They investigate how things work and find out how to successfully operate the equipment. Children are provided with the freedom to express their ideas and thoughts. This helps to develop their self-esteem remarkably well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	314188
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1064018
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	27
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Old Bridge Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909959
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2013
Telephone number	0191 3831782

The Old Bridge Nursery was registered in 1997. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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