

Old School House Nursery

1b Thomas Lane, Knotty Ash, LIVERPOOL, L14 5NX



Inspection date	4 January 2017
Previous inspection date	26 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Leaders have high expectations and a clear vision for the future of the nursery. They seek the views of staff, parents and children to identify how the service provided can be further improved.
- Staff work effectively in partnership with parents and other agencies. Children who require additional support receive it quickly. Parents feel involved in their children's learning.
- Staff get to know children well. They make good use of what they know about children's interests and developmental stages to provide activities which support their learning across all areas.
- Staff develop positive relationships with children and their families. The key-person system is used well to support children's emotional security. Children respond well to the warm and caring approach used by staff and their behaviour is good.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs or disabilities, are making good progress from their individual starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice by leaders is not incisive enough to provide highly effective support for developing staff's skills and knowledge.
- Staff sometimes do not provide enough time or opportunities for children to think and talk about their own ideas or feelings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate staff's practice even more rigorously and further support the development of their skills and knowledge
- provide more time for children to think about, discuss and explore their ideas and feelings.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Lauren Grocott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The staff team members are suitably qualified and experienced in their roles. Several staff are currently being supported by leaders to engage in higher qualifications. They are passionate about contributing to the ongoing development of the nursery. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and how to report any concerns regarding children's welfare. Staff engage in regular risk assessment and minimise potential hazards effectively. Monitoring of educational programmes by leaders ensures that children are provided with a broad range of interesting learning experiences. Staff understand the importance of engaging with other professionals to provide consistency for each child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use observations and assessments well to share information with parents and support children's development. Staff have appropriate regard to children's interests when they plan learning experiences. Children eagerly engage in messy play. They delight in exploring different materials, both indoors and outdoors. For example, they observe the effect of pouring, tipping and scooping sand or clapping their hands when covered with shaving foam. Older children begin to develop their early literacy skills. They make marks with a variety of tools and listen to familiar stories. Children enjoy listening to rhyming words and trying to recall what happens next. Babies explore a range of high-quality sensory resources. They learn about cause and effect as they begin to operate simple equipment, such as pushing buttons to turn lights on and off. Children enjoy outings in the local community and beyond. Staff help them to learn more about the world around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy attending the nursery and interacting with staff and their peers. Most children enter the nursery confidently. Those who do not are given plenty of care and attention by staff until they feel settled and are ready to play. Staff follow appropriate hygiene routines and procedures to minimise the risk of cross infection. Children enjoy nutritionally balanced meals which are freshly prepared on site. Older children learn more about how to look after their bodies as they engage in physical play sessions that are led by an external provider. For example, they practise climbing and balancing. Children learn how to successfully manage a range of appropriate risks under staff supervision. Staff use positive strategies to support children's understanding of the setting's rules. Children listen well to adults and the use of praise promotes their self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are developing the key skills which prepare them well for their next stage of learning and the move on to school. They become confident communicators, behave well and understand the rules of the setting. Children begin to take responsibility and manage their own needs, for example, by using the bathroom independently or serving their own meals. They enjoy exploring the learning environment and making independent choices. Children share resources between themselves. They know when it is time to let another child have a turn of popular resources, such as scooters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443860
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	1060062
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 - 9
Total number of places	90
Number of children on roll	113
Name of registered person	Knotty Ash Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904867
Date of previous inspection	26 October 2012
Telephone number	01512288255

Old School House Nursery was re-registered in 2012. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications or are working towards them, including two with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks per year. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery provides care for children with special educational needs or disabilities. They also offer wraparound care for school-aged children.

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