

Orchard Nursery School

92 Derby Road, Chellaston, Derby, Derbyshire, DE73 6RF



Inspection date

4 January 2017

Previous inspection date

7 August 2013

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

- The manager is ambitious and hard-working. She demonstrates great enthusiasm for the continued development of the nursery school. Although relatively new to post, she receives a good level of support from the senior management team based at a nearby partner nursery.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. They talk to and interact with children as they play. They make regular observations and assessments of children's learning and development to help them plan for their future progress.
- Children play happily in the friendly and welcoming nursery school environment. Parents praise the staff and managers at the nursery. They say that they go out of their way to help children settle in and feel at home.
- Children with special educational needs are well supported at the nursery school. Staff build strong partnerships with parents and other professionals, in order to meet children's needs and ensure consistency in their care.
- Staff share information about children's learning and progress at regular parents' evenings. This supports parents to continue children's learning in the home environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Methods in place for monitoring staff performance are not yet embedded well enough to raise the quality of teaching to exceptionally high levels.
- Staff do not always plan as effectively as possible, in order to ensure children are consistently challenged to make the best possible progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor staff practice more rigorously, in order to raise the good quality of teaching further
- plan and provide activities that consistently build on children's next steps in learning and challenge them to make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery school with the manager.
- 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 school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery school manager and group manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Josie Mapes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Following a period change the new manager has worked hard to establish a strong staff team at the nursery. The manager reflects on her practice. Since taking over the nursery school she has implemented a number of changes, updating resources and improving the nursery environment. She also has plans to renovate that outdoor area. There is a range of written policies and procedures in place, which underpins good practice across the nursery. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager places a high priority on developing and updating her own safeguarding knowledge, in order to promote the continued safety of children within the nursery. She ensures that staff receive regular safeguarding training and are confident in recognising any possible signs and symptoms of abuse. Staff risk assess the nursery school environment rigorously and take steps to minimise any potential hazards to children's safety. Robust procedures are in place for recruiting staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and understand how children learn and develop. Staff set up activities throughout the nursery school for children to engage with as they choose. Some children enjoy using their creative skills to build models out of old boxes and packaging. Others chose to play outside on bicycles or to paint with water. Staff sensitively follow children's lead, sitting down to read stories quietly with children who show an interest books. Staff have recently received training focusing on promoting children's regular physical activity. As a result, they now plan regular music and movement sessions for children throughout the day. They have found that these sessions help to improve children's overall concentration skills. Children thoroughly enjoy dancing and moving to the beat of the music. At the same time, they use their small-muscle skills to manipulate and stretch coloured dough in their hands.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children respond well to the routines of the nursery school and follow them very well. They have plenty of opportunity to develop their independence skills and even young children skilfully put on their own coats and shoes before going outside. The manager has recently updated the nursery school's food menu. Children enjoy a wide range of nutritious and healthy home-cooked meals. The manager ensures that staff also promote children's good oral health in partnership with parents. Staff are good role models and they manage children's behaviour well. They are calm and consistent, and regularly praise children for their achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points in learning. They are developing a wide range of skills, which helps them to prepare for school. Children with special educational needs are catching up quickly with their peers. Children develop good listening and attention skills. They enjoy listening to staff read and then talk excitedly about what has happened to the characters in the story.

Setting details

Unique reference number	258406
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	1063877
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Orchard Private Day Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP521895
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2013
Telephone number	01332 703204

Orchard Nursery School was registered in 1996. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday all year round, except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and on bank holidays. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. All of these hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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