

Summerhill Day Nursery

Summerhill, 22 Beechwood Drive, Beechwood, Prenton, Merseyside, CH43 7ZU



Inspection date

26 January 2017

Previous inspection date

16 September 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 new management team has a strong drive to continuously improve practice. The addition of an external consultant has enabled the whole team to identify and plan initiatives to improve outcomes for children. Exciting plans are in place to benefit children and the local community.
- Children of all ages enjoy a wide variety of interesting activities. They are encouraged to develop their creativity and to work together to create large-scale pieces of art. Staff are good at supporting children's developing imagination through pretend play.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. Senior staff are encouraged to take further qualifications in leadership skills or to develop expertise in a particular area of practice.
- Parents are kept informed about what their children are learning by various means. They have opportunities to attend specific small-group sessions to support them in helping their children to continue learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The acting manager has only recently established methods of assessing staff performance and training needs, as part of her drive to improve practice. This means that individual staff are not yet fully aware of how they can develop their teaching skills further.
- Although children's progress is monitored on an individual basis by the acting manager, she has not yet used the information from assessments to identify if particular groups of children are making better or worse progress in their learning, than others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed the newly developed methods of monitoring staff performance and identify any training needs so that individual staff are supported effectively in maintaining their skills and continue to improve their teaching
- compare the progress of different groups of children to identify if any are making better or worse progress than others.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager, deputy manager, early years consultant and nominated person. She discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Val Aspinall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The acting manager and her senior team have a sound understanding of their professional responsibilities and the requirements they must meet. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust risk assessments ensure the environment is safe and secure. Staff are knowledgeable about all aspects of child protection. They know how to recognise and report any concerns they have for children's well-being. They monitor children's attendance and regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through training. Partnerships with outside agencies are well developed. Children who need additional support receive targeted teaching and support for their well-being, underpinned by advice from health professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are prepared well for their eventual move to school. Information about children's learning and their unique personality and home situation is shared with teachers prior to their move. Children are encouraged to explore and develop their own ideas. Staff are good at weaving children's next steps for learning into activities that children choose for themselves. Clear observations of what children can do lead to accurate assessments of their development. Children of all ages make good progress as a result. Children enjoy making marks in lots of different ways. They explore sand, water and play dough, which effectively supports children's physical and mathematical development. Children enjoy stories, songs and listening games. Staff engage in lots of interesting conversations with children, helping them to become confident talkers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Very new children quickly begin to develop attachments to their key person and settle to play. Staff are sensitive to individual children's needs and know their family circumstances. Babies enjoy looking at photographs of their families and each other, which helps them to feel secure. Children develop age-appropriate independence. Babies try hard to feed themselves, toddlers clear away their plates after lunch and pre-school children take off and hang up their painting aprons. Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks and plant and pick vegetables to eat. They enjoy vigorous activity outdoors led by staff who make up imaginary games to encourage children to move in different ways. Children behave well; they are occupied in play and listen to staff when they make requests. Staff respond positively to children's moods and this contributes to the busy and happy atmosphere.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are lively, curious and keen to communicate. They want to share their ideas and can make their needs and wants known to staff and each other. They develop independence and a willingness to have a go at tasks. For example, they try to cut up their own fruit and repeatedly try to cut with scissors. They show concentration as they very precisely thread cereal hoops onto dry spaghetti. Children show the aptitudes required to continue with their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306502
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1063949
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 - 7
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	77
Name of registered person	Beechwood Community Trust Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906529
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2013
Telephone number	0151 606 1567

Summerhill Day Nursery was registered in 1994. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or higher, including one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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