

Dickory Dock Nursery

Dickory Dock Nursery, 58 Margetson Crescent, SHEFFIELD, S5 9NB



Inspection date

2 February 2017

Previous inspection date

21 June 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children behave impeccably. Staff provide clear and consistent explanations that help children understand their high expectations of behaviour. Staff cleverly explain the impact of unwanted behaviour calmly and sensitively, helping children understand why rules are necessary.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. They use their skills to support children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and disabilities particularly well. Children and their families are very well supported by staff and managers. Staff work effectively with other professionals to meet children's specialist care and learning needs.
- Management and staff monitor and analyse information on children's ongoing progress well. Any weaknesses in learning are easily identified so children can receive support to ensure that they make good progress in their development. Funding is used effectively to help the most vulnerable children to achieve well.
- Senior management oversees the work of the staff well. For example, they provide regular meetings, support and training and observe staff practice. This helps develop staff's skills and achieve better outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not involve parents as fully as possible in assessing the starting points for children's learning. They do not find out everything that parents know about what their children understand and can do when they first join the nursery.
- Sometimes the environment in the pre-school room is too noisy for children to engage fully in their play and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents more fully in the initial assessment of the starting points for children's learning
- consider ways to reduce the noise level, especially in the pre-school room, to enable all children to fully engage in their chosen play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records and evidence of staff suitability checks.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and deputy manager and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with a senior member of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff understand their role in safeguarding children and how to respond to any concerns about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures help to ensure the suitability of all adults. Staff, parents and children are involved effectively in evaluating the provision to drive continuous improvement. Management actively supports staff to continue their professional development through ongoing training. Partnerships with other settings are very good. Staff regularly share information to help promote children's ongoing progress and to effectively meet their care and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular assessments of children's achievements. Teaching is very good and in some instances, outstanding. Staff have a secure understanding of how children learn and promote some aspects of their learning, such as their personal, social and emotional development, extremely well. They plan stimulating and challenging activities that meet children's individual needs and interests. Children make choices about their play and are self-motivated. They develop a good understanding of similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children enjoy looking at and discussing photographs of their own families. Babies have good opportunities to be creative and explore a broad range of media and resources. Staff are excellent role models and participate enthusiastically. They provide consistent praise and encouragement. Staff support children's growing vocabulary and language skills extremely well. For example, they talk clearly, model words and provide an ongoing commentary to children's play. They also use visual signing techniques to help children express their needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are extremely kind and caring. Children establish very strong attachments with them. They settle extremely quickly and demonstrate very high levels of self-esteem and security. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles, such as brushing teeth and eating healthily. Staff expertly enable children to take the lead in managing their own personal care routines. This promotes their confidence. Children develop an excellent range of physical skills. They use challenging apparatus skilfully and are adept in controlling their movements during yoga and musical activities. Staff undertake highly effective risk assessments to keep children safe and free from harm.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are very well prepared for their next stage of learning. Children concentrate on their chosen activities and demonstrate a positive approach to learning. They learn mathematical skills and use these confidently in their play. Their development of literacy skills is good. Children write their names or make individual marks on their work. They develop independence and confidence as staff celebrate their achievements. Children show pride in their achievements and enjoy the attention they receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY260159
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	1064432
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	51
Number of children on roll	117
Name of registered person	Dickory Dock Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP520512
Date of previous inspection	21 June 2013
Telephone number	0114 2338679

Dickory Dock Nursery was registered in 2003. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for two weeks at Christmas and on bank holidays. They provide funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 and 16 at level 3.

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