

Woodland Nursery

Woodland Community Centre, Woodland Avenue, Luton, LU3 1RW



Inspection date

2 February 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff are highly qualified, very knowledgeable and ambitious in their pursuit of excellence. Discussions at supervision meetings and action plans support staff in taking on additional responsibilities. They are very enthusiastic about their roles.
- Parents are viewed as partners in their children's learning. They have opportunities to attend parenting programmes, gain information about safety and how to promote children's good health. This is not only beneficial for children and their families but also for the wider community.
- Children's literacy skills are superb. They are highly adept at recognising letters and sounds. Staff provide a comprehensive programme of early phonics teaching using creative songs and technology. This is shared with parents who are keen to join in with the learning.
- The quality of teaching by all staff is exemplary. Staff are calm, confident and skilful in supporting learning. Their timely interventions and use of precise observations and assessments help them to focus on what children need to learn next.
- Activities for children are highly stimulating and exciting. They play in the sensory room where they test the sounds that different musical instruments make.
- Children flourish in the safe and nurturing environment. They know who their key person is and build strong attachments to them. Parents are welcomed to stay with children until they settle. When it is time to leave, children are confident and content in the care of staff.
- Staff know how to positively promote children's excellent behaviour. They allow children to make choices and encourage them to take responsibility for their actions. Staff explain reasons for rules, supporting children to know the expectations they have for them. Children are highly competent in taking action to keep themselves safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the planning for activities in the outdoor environment, in order to help children who prefer to learn outside to have the same high level of stimulating experiences as provided indoors.

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 completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views. The inspector spoke to children, staff, directors and the local authority development officer.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff know their local area and families extremely well. They are acutely aware of local safeguarding issues and the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. In response, staff provide extensive information, support and advice for families. Staff's knowledge of child protection is highly impressive and they are vigilant in supervising children and recognising any causes for concern about their welfare. Arrangements for safeguarding children are effective. Regular audits and evaluations support staff in maintaining a safe environment for children. The directors are highly qualified and have a wealth of experience. Their vision for delivering the highest possible quality of care for children is replicated amongst the staff team. The manager's ability to direct and motivate the team drives the nursery to use reflection and consultation to continually evolve and improve. Staff confidently discuss how they envisage their professional training and future qualifications will enhance their teaching even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All children at the nursery speak English as an additional language. Their grasp of English is superb and they make rapid progress in their communication and language skills. Staff creatively extend children's vocabulary. They are keen to show the breadth of their skills through their impressive ability to name fruits and shapes. Children draw intricate pictures of their families and animals, demonstrating their excellent pencil control. They give meaning to their drawings and talk about their ideas. Swift intervention is sought by staff if children do not make expected progress in their learning. Staff appreciate the value of outdoor play, especially for children who do not have a garden at home. They use the outdoor area to effectively help children to develop their physical skills. Staff are looking at even further ways that they can enhance the outdoor space for children who enjoy learning this way.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Promoting children's good health is given high priority by staff. Children enjoy learning through cooking activities. They sort food onto plates and make wall displays with staff about good choices for snack time. Staff also teach children about how to care for their teeth. Teaching about differing celebrations, cultures and ethnicities broadens children's understanding about the world they live in outside of their immediate environments. Equally, children get to know the place where they live when they go on walks around their local area.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are self-assured and confident to talk with adults. They make rapid progress from their individual starting points. Children are highly resourceful individuals who persevere and show determination as they play. Their mathematical skills are highly impressive. They can count, recognise numerals and talk about what numbers are missing in a sequence. Older children are extremely well prepared for moving on to school. Children, for whom the nursery receives funding, make excellent gains in their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494045
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	1034248
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Woodland Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP904180
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01582 579221

Woodland Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 11.30am and midday until 3pm. There is an optional lunch club from 11.30am until midday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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