

The Nursery at Wilmslow Preparatory School

Wilmslow Preparatory School, 7 Grove Avenue, WILMSLOW, Cheshire, SK9 5EG



Inspection date

9 February 2017

Previous inspection date

27 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Children are highly confident and engaged individuals. They enjoy their learning in this vibrant, interesting and challenging nursery. Learning is well promoted, both indoors and outdoors.
- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of individual children. They are skilled in enabling children to independently explore and investigate the environment. They balance this with well-timed interventions to challenge children and extend their learning.
- Staff work closely with parents, who speak positively about the nursery and how well staff meet the needs and interests of their children. They feel they are kept well informed by staff about their children's progress.
- The nursery has developed a strong partnership with the host school that most children move on to. They liaise and share information with them and help prepare children well for the transition.
- The educational programme is well monitored. Effective observations of children as they play are used to inform accurate assessments of what they can do. Gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and specific programmes of support are put into place to help them catch up.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although there is continuous professional development for staff, it is not focused sharply enough on helping to enhance the quality of teaching to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the support given to staff to help and guide them to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

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 members of staff. The inspector completed joint observations with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and the manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. He discussed self-evaluation and plans for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ron Goldsmith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. A strong emphasis is placed on ensuring recruitment practices are robust. New staff are inducted effectively to fulfil their roles and responsibilities and all staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues. Managers and staff aspire to improve. They have made significant changes to their provision since the last inspection. Clear plans are in place to evaluate the nursery to identify and address any areas for development. Regular staff meetings and robust monitoring ensures a culture of safety is promoted. All staff benefit from targeted training opportunities to help raise their knowledge and skills. As a consequence, the quality of teaching is consistently good across the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The positive attitude and enthusiasm of staff make learning enjoyable for all children. Staff use their experience and training effectively to provide children with an exciting and well-resourced learning environment. They plan stimulating experiences to support children's ideas, interests and next steps in learning. Babies begin to show great interest in exploring objects. They reach and grasp for items using their developing physical skills. Staff build on children's growing mathematical knowledge, for example, by asking children to position items or count in everyday situations. Children enjoy stories and predicting what might happen next. Children listen carefully to new words and phrases during each activity. Their communication and language development are skilfully supported by staff. Staff provide good explanations and respond to children's interests enthusiastically. Staff successfully support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities to help them make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is supported extremely well as they move between activities and rooms and on to school. Children develop very strong attachments and build secure friendships. Staff help children understand when to listen to adults or other children. Children are encouraged to work cooperatively together. For example, staff encourage children to share and take turns as they first plant and then water the radish seeds in pots outdoors. Staff are extremely good role models and help children learn about how to keep themselves healthy and safe. The environment is clean and well maintained. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise, as they go outside on a regular basis. They enjoy nutritious, freshly prepared snacks and food that meets individual dietary requirements.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They show good levels of involvement during activities. Children enjoy the routine of the nursery and are keen to try new experiences and learn. Older children show a keen interest in writing. They show good levels of concentration and acquire the key skills required in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421376
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	1058459
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	29
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Wilmslow School Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529936
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2016
Telephone number	01625527739

The Nursery at Wilmslow Preparatory School was registered in 2011. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for the period during Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children. There are 11 members of staff, including the owner/manager. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, two hold a qualification at level 6, two at level 3 and two at level 2.

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