

Heron Day Nursery

St. Johns Centre, Brick Kiln Lane, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN1 1XH



Inspection date	30 March 2017
Previous inspection date	2 May 2014

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 enthusiastic manager and her team are dedicated to continually improving the quality of care and teaching. They consider the views of parents and children when evaluating the quality of the nursery and planning future improvements.
- The manager monitors the work of the staff closely. She observes staff as they interact with children and meets with them regularly to discuss aspects of their practice. Staff feel well supported in their role.
- Staff accurately assess children's progress. They observe regularly to find out what children can do. They use this information to plan what children need to learn next.
- Children develop close bonds with staff. The established key-person system effectively supports children's emotional well-being.
- Staff keep parents up to date with their children's progress by talking to them daily and using daily diaries. Parents speak highly of the care provided and are well supported to contribute to their child's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use their knowledge of children's interests to support their learning as they play outdoors.
- Sometimes, the organisation of daily routines interrupts the learning of older children as they play, explore and test out their ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of children's interests and enjoyment of outdoor play to support their learning
- support staff to recognise when to allow older children to explore their own ideas more fully.

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 a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the progress of different groups of children. She uses this information to identify any gaps in learning. The manager supports staff to meet the needs of children. This helps to ensure that they receive any additional support they may need. Children make good progress from the time they start. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff can identify the signs of possible abuse and are clear in the action they should take should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff check the environment regularly and take appropriate action to minimise any potential risk. The manager ensures that staff with a first-aid qualification are well deployed within the nursery to ensure children are protected in the event of an accident.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a wide range of exciting activities indoors that are based on children's interests and precisely matched to their current stage of development. Staff play alongside children, talking to them about what they are doing. They ask questions and pose simple problems to help develop children's thinking further. For example, as older children use pictures to help them build model robots, staff ask them what they need to do next and how best to fit the pieces of the robot together. Younger children are well supported to develop their communication, physical and social skills. For example, staff introduce words such as 'silky' and 'runny' to describe the texture of paint as babies delight in exploring and making marks in paint.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop secure relationships with staff and each other. Staff are good role models and manage children's behaviour consistently. They praise children and help them to understand why some behaviours are not appropriate. Children are taught to recognise similarities and respect differences between themselves and others. Staff effectively use a variety of ways to help children learn about people from other cultures. Staff teach children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Children enjoy a range of healthy meals and snacks. They have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise in the shared garden. Staff work in close partnership with a range of other professionals to help ensure the individual needs of all children are met.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active, independent learners who enjoy new experiences. They persevere when solving problems and enjoy helping others. Babies and young children develop confidence to explore their surroundings. Older children gain good early literacy skills, such as recognising their names and practising writing. All children make good progress and are well prepared for their future learning, including their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358603
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1088028
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 - 12
Total number of places	148
Number of children on roll	102
Name of registered person	Heron Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527139
Date of previous inspection	2 May 2014
Telephone number	01942202198

Heron Day Nursery registered in 2007. It is located in Wigan, Lancashire. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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