

The Wood School at Paupers Wood

Paupers Wood, Nell Lane, Manchester, M20 2DU



Inspection date

5 May 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Leadership is strong. Self-evaluation and reflective practice is embedded. Expectations are high and there is a clear commitment to continue to raise the already good quality.
- Staff are highly qualified. Overall, they use their skills and expertise well to provide high levels of care and good support. This helps children to consolidate and build on their experiences in school. Children develop many skills for the future.
- The outdoor environment is superb. Staff use the rich and stimulating outdoor provision to provide an extensive range of activities and experiences which challenge, interest and capture children's imaginations. All children arrive in high spirits and are eager to explore.
- Children's behaviour is impeccable. Staff are supportive role models who value and respect each child as an individual. Children develop strong levels of emotional security, self-control and cooperation. Younger children are extremely confident alongside their older peers.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring and supervision procedures for staff are not yet focused precisely enough on developing the good quality of practice even further.
- Systems used to gather information from parents about children's individual skills and interests are not always successful so that their experiences can be further complemented.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the process for monitoring staff performance and implement more rigorous supervision that enhances the quality of practice even further
- find further ways to gather information from all parents to fully complement children's experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the setting.
- The inspector observed and evaluated an activity with the provider/manager.
- The inspector spoke to the provider/manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation such as policies and procedures, discussed self-evaluation and checked evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Layla Louise Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff are clear about their responsibility to keep children safe and they fully understand child protection procedures. Children's safety and well-being are given the utmost priority. Detailed risk assessments are implemented and children help staff to identify and minimise any potential hazards. This helps to enhance their strong knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. The woodland premises has a secure entrance and high perimeter fencing. This prevents unauthorised access and contributes towards children's safety. Parents speak extremely positively about the staff, facilities and unique experiences that their children receive. Staff have established good relationships with external agencies. This helps to provide good support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff join in with children as they play and explore. They ask purposeful questions to encourage children to think and respond. This contributes towards all children's speaking skills, including children who speak English as an additional language. As boys lift tree stumps, staff ask them to describe the texture and how the bark feels. Children use mathematical language as they compare which tree stump is heavier. Younger children create pictures. They delight as they make new colours by mixing paints together. Older girls draw detailed images of the woodland surroundings. This helps to consolidate their early writing skills and creativity. Children develop an excellent understanding of the world around them. For example, younger boys confidently discuss the different types of trees and how different clothing camouflages them in the forest.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

All children are supported exceptionally well by their key person. This contributes towards their superb sense of belonging. Children learn a multitude of practical skills and how to take calculated risks. This helps them to develop independence and confidence. For example, children capably use real saws to cut tree branches. They hollow out the middle using small skewers and make pea shooters. Staff acknowledge children's efforts and achievements. This contributes towards their extremely high levels of self-assurance and confidence. Children gain an excellent understanding of routines and boundaries. Staff use a bell to indicate it is time to sit in the circle for snack and even the youngest children immediately stop, listen and respond appropriately. Children's physical health and well-being are exceptionally well promoted. They skilfully manoeuvre along and up on to fallen trees and particularly delight in swinging from ropes. Positive hygiene routines are adopted and instilled by highly responsive staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480921
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	996963
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	4 - 11
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	Learning in the Woods CIC
Registered person unique reference number	RP908459
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07815 557826

The Wood School at Paupers Wood registered in 2014. The setting employs 10 members of staff. Of these, three staff hold early years teachers status and four staff hold qualified teacher status. Six staff are forest school trained. The setting opens Monday to Friday, term time only, from 9.00am to 3.15pm.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

