Watoto Pre-School

139 Catherine Road, SHEFFIELD, S4 7HJ



Inspection date	22 May 2017
Previous inspection date	26 January 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider has taken decisive action to improve the pre-school. Robust recruitment procedures and the successful implementation of policies and procedures help to protect children.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff provide them with a wealth of information about their children's learning. They guide them in how to support children's learning at home and share strategies to manage unwanted behaviour. An effective key-person system helps children to settle and builds strong partnerships with parents.
- Assessments of children's progress are robust and include all those involved in the child's learning and development. Information from assessments is used effectively to inform planning, ensuring that activities are tailored to children's individual needs.
- Staff help children to understand about similarity and difference. They encourage them to think about different families and traditions. Through stories and discussions, children begin to learn about the wider world.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not fully support children to extend their imaginary play and explore their emerging ideas in more depth.
- Although staff provide good support for children who speak English as an additional language to develop their communication skills, they provide fewer opportunities for them to use their home languages 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:

- support children to build on imaginative play and explore their ideas in more detail
- provide more opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to use their home language in their play.

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 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 number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about an adult or a child. The provider has an in-depth understanding of the priorities for improving learning across the district. Additional funding has been used successfully to enhance outcomes for children. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities receive exceptional levels of support. The provider has a comprehensive understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in practice. She uses her findings from detailed evaluation to develop targeted action plans that support continuing improvement. Focused professional development plans help all staff to raise their teaching skills to a higher standard. The monitoring of groups of children is used effectively to identify any gaps in learning and ensure all of them develop the skills they need for school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their time in the pre-school. They are confident. They make choices about their play, independently choose from a wide range of resources and initiate conversations with children and adults. Staff help children to develop mathematical skills. They encourage them to think about shape, asking if they can remember what a rectangle looks like and how many sides it has. Staff promote children's problem-solving skills and support them to find different ways to do things. For instance, they give them time to work out how to fill a container that is too tall to fit under the tap of the water butt. Staff very skilfully use a range of strategies to promote children's early communication. Sign language, pictures and props are used during activities to help children to convey their wants and needs and to understand instructions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents comment that the support staff offer to families is excellent. They help children through change. They provide parents with a wealth of information about how to keep their children safe and healthy. Staff promote good hygiene and children's independence in personal care routines. Children enjoy developing their physical skills in the outdoor area. They climb, slide and balance. They begin to identify hazards and take managed risks. Children grow fruit and vegetables and enjoy a wide range of healthy snacks. They behave well, use good manners and learn to consider the feelings of others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They follow their interests and are keen to learn. Children participate in telling stories where they learn to pay attention and develop good listening skills. During discussions in small groups, children recall past events, talk about their family and friends and develop good social skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY367292

Local authority Sheffield

Inspection number 1084388

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 56

Number of children on roll 49

Name of registered person

Black Women's Resource Centre Watoto Preschool

Registered person unique

reference number

RP907319

Date of previous inspection 26 January 2017

Telephone number 0114 2751817

Watoto Pre-School registered in 2008. The pre-school employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday for 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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