

Early Days Nursery

Park Hall CP School, Carberry Way, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST3 5QU



Inspection date	30 May 2017
Previous inspection date	24 May 2016

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 manager is ambitious and leads her staff team well with effective supervision sessions. Staff are qualified and use new skills they gain from training to build on their teaching practice. For example, they implement effective strategies to identify children's precise next steps in learning and inform their planning of activities.
- Staff are sensitive to children's individual needs and help support their self-esteem and confidence effectively. Children settle happily in the nursery. They develop good relationships with staff and with their friends.
- Staff are vigilant in keeping children safe. For instance, they follow robust routines when using the outdoor play area. They identify and take action to minimise any potential risks to maintain their physical welfare.
- Children are happy at the nursery. Parents report how well their children learn and how much they appreciate the caring nature of the staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the manager and staff review the provision, self-evaluation does not fully include parents' and children's suggestions to enhance the quality of the provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities to include and use parents' and children's ideas more effectively to help develop the provision even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities taking place both inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector gained the views of parents during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's policies and procedures. She saw evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector discussed staff practice and observed activities with the manager.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust induction and regular ongoing safeguarding training ensure that all staff have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know the procedures to follow and who to contact to report any such concerns. Managers and staff closely monitor the assessments of children's progress and identify any gaps in their development. They work with other professionals to provide targeted support to ensure that each child's individual needs are being met and gaps in their learning are closing. Funding is used well to support children who need extra help with their learning. For example, by providing children with one-to-one support. All required documentation is in place and accurately reflects details of attendance, accidents or incidents involving children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The daily deployment of staff and managers is good. Staff work with children on an individual basis or in small groups. They have a good understanding of every child's different interests and abilities and nurture these well. Staff make the most of opportunities to help older children extend their ability to count and use numbers, identify shapes and consider size. They support children in developing their language and communication skills well. They take time to listen to children and repeat words back to them to help support their pronunciation of words. Children play with good levels of independence. They have lots of opportunities to follow their own ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are consistent in their approach to children's behaviour. They provide clear explanations that support children's understanding about how to behave kindly to one another. Children receive frequent praise and encouragement from staff. They develop independence skills and they prepare and serve their own snack. Children eagerly put on their coats for outdoor play. They proudly show staff that they are able to do up their own coat zips. Frequent opportunities for fresh air and exercise are provided for children. They learn about their local community as they visit nearby shops and parks. Children enjoy caring for the nursery's allotment. They enthusiastically join in digging and caring for the plants and vegetables they grow.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children show sustained levels of concentration and enjoy trying new experiences, investigating and exploring. Early literacy skills are emerging as children practise writing their names and learn the sounds that letters represent. This learning helps them in preparing for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310866
Local authority	Stoke on Trent
Inspection number	1098847
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 - 10
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	135
Name of registered person	Early Days (Staffordshire) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907022
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2016
Telephone number	01782 331821

Early Days Nursery opened in 2005. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4, 12 at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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