

The Nursery

Standevens Yard, Wagg Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4BA



Inspection date	7 June 2017
Previous inspection date	7 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager's inspirational leadership encourages the staff team to continually strive for improvement. Staff feel valued and motivated. They see their ongoing professional development as highly important, and have a thirst for knowledge. Staff refine their teaching skills based on the latest research and carry out their job with passion and commitment.
- Staff's planning for children's learning is highly responsive to children's interests. The children are very engaged in the learning opportunities provided. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who are excelling, are expertly challenged to fully develop their abilities.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of the skills children need to be ready for school. They successfully support children to be self-motivated and confident, with enquiring minds. Children make connections between different ideas and are keen to experiment and try new experiences.
- Staff's partnership with parents is superb and information is shared very effectively. Staff ensure parents understand the principles of learning through play and provide a wide range of advice and equipment for them to enhance children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the long term impact that the recent improvements to the systems for planning activities have on maintaining children's already excellent learning.

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. 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

Sarah Rhodes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager and staff have fully reviewed how they plan and monitor children's development so they can ensure they are enhancing children's abilities in the most effective and dynamic way. The manager has identified the need to continue to monitor the effect of this new planning system, to ensure excellent progress in children's development is maintained. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported. Staff work highly effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary team and in close partnership with parents. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff, have a thorough understanding of what would constitute a concern about a child's welfare and know the action to take.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff carefully create an inspiring learning environment for children. The thoughtfully planned areas effectively promote children's independence. Staff make every second count and listen carefully to what children say. They expertly identify children's interests and use these to build challenging activities which precisely target children's individual areas for development. For example, staff use children's interest in how the world was made as a starting point to develop their understanding of where information can be obtained. Children are fascinated as they discover information about the oceans and continents. Similarly, staff skilfully extend a game using a wind-up toy to help children find ways to measure the distance it travels and record their findings.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop excellent social skills. They learn useful and effective strategies to manage their own and other children's behaviour and express their own needs. Staff also work closely with parents to sensitively identify reasons for children's difficult behaviours. They are very successful in implementing plans with parents to develop children's highly cooperative behaviour. Older children help and encourage younger children to manage a range of risks when outside. For example, they offer excellent support for more reserved children, to develop the confidence to negotiate an obstacle course. Children know to use a cycle helmet when skilfully riding bicycles down a slope.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress. They show tremendous levels of confidence and a desire to communicate their ideas and thoughts. They are exceptionally well prepared for their move to school. Children develop inquisitive minds. For example, they experiment to see how what they do affects water as it flows down a slope and disassemble the toilet cistern, to discover what makes the toilet flush. They confidently write for different purposes, such as making get well soon cards or recording their experiments.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305379
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	1090603
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Shirley Gates
Registered person unique reference number	RP512839
Date of previous inspection	7 April 2015
Telephone number	01260 299 120

The Nursery registered in 1989 in Congleton, Cheshire. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications, six at level 3 and one at level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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