

Methwold Nursery School Ltd

39 Stoke Road, Methwold, Thetford, Norfolk, IP26 4PE



Inspection date	15 June 2017
Previous inspection date	31 March 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are inquisitive and enjoy exploring the natural environment. They imaginatively use a variety of resources to embed learning and develop new skills. All children, make good progress from their starting points and thoroughly enjoy learning.
- The provider and manager work well together. They are passionate about their work, reflective and committed to evaluating and developing all areas of the provision. They successfully identify ways to strengthen practice and improve outcomes for children. Consequently, the nursery has good capacity to continue building upon the already strong standards of care and learning.
- Children settle very quickly and establish extremely strong and respectful attachments with staff. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure, and thrive in their care.
- Children behave very well. Staff are extremely good role models for children. They use positive language and give gentle reminders about expectations for their behaviour. Consequently, the atmosphere in the nursery is calm and conducive to learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not give children enough time to think and respond to questions in order to promote speech and language skills to the highest levels.
- The arrangements for the supervision and support of staff are not fully embedded, to clearly identify how individual staff members can raise the quality of their teaching practice to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good teaching skills, giving children more time to think and respond to questions and build even further on their language and communication skills to enable them to make rapid progress
- enhance the current arrangements for staff support and supervision and identify ways to raise the already good standard of teaching practice to an even higher level, in order to promote excellent outcomes for children.

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 deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and 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

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider and manager have completed training as designated safeguarding officers. They understand their role and know the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff confidently explain the nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures. Recruitment of staff is robust. There are effective induction procedures in place which contribute to the safe and efficient management of the nursery. The manager monitors the educational programmes and she is considering ways to improve the support offered to staff to raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children very well and have a good knowledge of how children learn. They use their observations and assessments to plan effectively for children's next steps in learning. The quality of teaching is consistently good throughout the nursery and at times, it is outstanding. Children delight in watching the bird's nest in the tree in the nursery garden. Staff skilfully support them to use a computer to identify which species of bird they are. Consequently, children's understanding of the world is well promoted. Staff provide a range of high quality, interesting and stimulating resources in the indoor and outdoor environments. Timely interventions by staff ensure that all children's needs are appropriately met and that children develop the skills and attributes needed to support their move on to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy. They thrive in the extremely welcoming environment and quickly settle at activities. Their personal, social and emotional needs are exceedingly well met. Staff are highly skilled and ensure all children are helped to learn to the best of their ability. Children follow very good hygiene routines and their independence is extremely well promoted. For example, they carefully pour cups of water themselves and offer these to their friends. Staff have an expert knowledge of the children in their care and go to considerable lengths to ensure their individual needs are well met. New children and parents are exceptionally well supported by staff to ensure a successful settling-in period that is tailored to meet their individual needs.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and for starting school. Children have good social skills. They learn how to make friendships and show an awareness of their own needs and those of others. Children, including the very youngest, become confident and sociable learners. All children are making good progress given their starting points and capabilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY393602
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1088082
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 - 5
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Methwold Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906921
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2014
Telephone number	01366 728419

Methwold Nursery School Ltd registered in 2009, having been previously registered under the same ownership since 2006. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds a qualification at level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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