

Thorner Pre-School & Toddler Group

Thorner C of E Primary School, Kirkhills, Thorner, Leeds, LS14 3JD



Inspection date	22 June 2017
Previous inspection date	3 March 2014

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

- Teaching is of the highest quality and worthy of dissemination to others. Children have exceedingly positive attitudes to learning. They have excellent personal, social and language skills and are extremely well prepared for school.
- The well-qualified staff team are supervised exceptionally well. They engage in an inspiring range of professional development activities, which is highly focused on extending their teaching skills. This has a very positive impact on the quality of their teaching and interactions.
- Children's welfare and happiness are given the utmost priority. Staff are highly responsive to children's needs and show a genuine interest in what children do and say. Children have very secure relationships with staff and are incredibly self-assured.
- Staff are admirable role-models. They skilfully support children to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children behave impeccably and play amicably together.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Staff exchange in-depth information with them to support children's learning, at home and in the setting.
- Excellent links with the host school and other local providers help ensure that transitions are seamless. Staff share in-depth information to promote consistency in children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already excellent monitoring systems that are in place to sustain the highest levels of teaching.

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 looked at documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and discussed the setting's evaluation procedures and plans for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents during the inspection and considered their views.

Inspector

Susie Prince

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The dynamic manager is an inspirational leader. She has an uncompromising drive to maintain the highest standards and her vision for excellence is shared by all staff. Self-evaluation is an integral part of practice and is highly focused on improving outcomes for children. Staff use innovative methods to gain feedback from children and parents' views are fully considered. The manager uses detailed tracking systems to monitor the progress of different groups of children. She painstakingly analyses this data to plan interventions and close any gaps in children's learning. The manager plans to develop these systems even further to sustain the excellent levels of achievement for children. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are extremely knowledgeable about child protection issues and know what action to take if they have concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly committed staff team provides an inspiring array of activities that excites and motivates children. They complete high-quality observations and assessments, which they use to plan precisely for children's ongoing learning. Staff have a superior knowledge of the different ways that children learn and their interactions are first-rate. Children enthusiastically find hidden plastic insects in the garden. Staff use this opportunity superbly to promote children's mathematical skills. For example, they help children to estimate, count and calculate. Children pretend to serve food in a cafe. Staff expertly model role play and encourage children to write for different purposes. Children ascribe meaning to their marks as they take food orders and read it back to staff. Staff use splendid questioning techniques to support children to develop their knowledge and understanding even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate extremely high levels of cooperation and are exceedingly resourceful. They have unrestricted access to a wonderful outdoor play area, where they expertly climb apparatus. Staff use routines and play-based activities splendidly to educate children about healthy lifestyles. Children demonstrate an excellent understanding of healthy eating practices and know why they need to wash their hands before meals. They are exceedingly independent and competently carry out age-appropriate tasks.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress in their learning and development. They are highly motivated learners, who are developing excellent problem-solving skills. Children have superb communication skills and have learnt some greetings in other languages. They competently link sounds to letters and can identify the initial letter sounds in words. Children intuitively count and use mathematical language in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY372694
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	1088054
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	30
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Thorner Preschool & Toddler Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP528029
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2014
Telephone number	01132 892 541

Thorner Pre-School & Toddler Group registered in 1999. The setting employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. There is also wrap-around care provided with the onsite out of school club. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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