

Bowdon Nursery School

Community Classroom, Bowdon Church School, Grange Road, Altrincham, WA14 3EX



Inspection date

27 June 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Leaders and managers have a clear and ambitious vision for the nursery. They communicate this extremely effectively and involve every member of the team in driving continuous improvement. The highly qualified practitioners demonstrate a well-informed determination to achieve the highest standards.
- Children demonstrate deep involvement in complex exploratory play that helps to promote their rapid learning and development. Practitioners skilfully help children to think and investigate. Children learn and understand new and interesting words as practitioners teach vocabulary through exciting, engaging activities.
- Partnerships with parents are superb. Practitioners use their expert knowledge to help parents to successfully continue children's learning at home. Parents comment that children become confident because practitioners give them individual care and encouragement.
- The experienced manager continually checks the quality of teaching. She effectively coaches and supports practitioners to keep improving. For example, practitioners watch video recordings of their teaching and identify strengths and areas for development.
- Children learn to follow clear, carefully explained rules and routines that keep them safe. For example, they use knives with increasing precision, safety and skill in the outdoor kitchen.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the impact on children's outcomes of planned improvements to the outdoor area, building on the already excellent practice.

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 practitioners and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of practitioners working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan King

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Outstanding leadership underpins an uncompromising drive to provide excellent care and education. The close partnership with the school is a particular strength. For example, leaders and practitioners work together so that children are prepared extremely well to start school. Safeguarding is effective. Changes to national, local and nursery policy are effectively incorporated into robust procedures. Practitioners demonstrate excellent knowledge of what to do if they are concerned that a child may be at risk of abuse or neglect. New practitioners undertake a challenging induction and training programme that prepares them well to contribute fully to the work of the strong team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Practitioners use their insightful observations of children's progress and their excellent understanding of how children learn, in order to plan challenging experiences that help to promote children's rapid progress. For example, children link sounds to written letters and begin to blend sounds to read simple words. Children learn outdoors in all weathers. For example, practitioners worked alongside children to plan, build and then improve a home for creatures that live in the garden. Practitioners write down and display children's ideas so children learn that writing has useful purposes. Managers plan to extend the opportunities for children to investigate and learn outdoors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Practitioners are unfailingly positive role models who want to learn more. This helps children to become enthusiastic explorers and successful learners. Practitioners teach children skills that enable them to drive forward their own learning. For example, children ably use a range of techniques to join containers together when they design and build models. Practitioners consistently follow a well-developed approach to promoting children's positive behaviour. Children learn to consider the feelings of other people and often vote to make democratic decisions about activities. Practitioners teach children to understand the reasons for making healthy food choices and exercising.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding for their age and make swift progress from accurately assessed starting points. Gaps in attainment close quickly. Children try out their own ideas thoughtfully and inventively. They are self-assured and independent. For example, they confidently choose and carefully carry their lunch in the school canteen. Children can count and read numbers. They understand the concept of adding numbers, for example when they move the peg one place along the number line to record their arrival at nursery. Children know that the eggs in the incubator will take six days to hatch and so they begin to understand the measurement of time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489154
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	1014404
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Bowdon Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532118
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07912205469

Bowdon Nursery School registered in 2015. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. All of them hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including two who hold early years teacher status and two who hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, with the exception of the school Easter and Christmas holidays and two weeks in August. Sessions are from 7.45am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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