

St Cuthberts Old School Nursery

Councillor Lane, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 2BY



Inspection date

29 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

- The experienced, inspirational leadership team and dedicated staff who share the same vision are extremely proactive. They are committed to making ongoing improvements. Self-evaluation is sharply focused. The strong desire to achieve excellence has helped them to achieve an outstanding standard since registration.
- Teaching is exceptional. Staff are very well qualified and use their superb skills and abilities extremely well. They plan inspiring and captivating activities which enthuse and challenge all children. This contributes towards their excellent progress.
- All children arrive in high spirits and their laughter and chatter is heard throughout the setting. Children of all ages play harmoniously, they have a delightful time together. Children's social skills are excellent and their behaviour is impeccable.
- The key-person system is robust. Children's emotional well-being is superbly promoted. All children thrive, feel safe and are secure. Children have remarkably high levels of self-esteem and confidence. The nurturing and highly responsive staff know each child individually and interact with them with real affection and care.
- Partnership with parents is exceptional. Staff truly value and encourage parental involvement and include them in all aspects of children's care and learning. Parents are extremely complimentary about the excellent level of care and education that children receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on and evaluate the impact of the targeted programme of professional development that drives and sustains the excellent practice of the highly skilled staff team.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured all areas of the nursery. She observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held ongoing discussions and carried out an evaluation of teaching with the provider/manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also spoke to the local school deputy head teacher who is the special lead in education.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as policies and procedures, children's records, discussed self-evaluation and action plans and checked evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions and written feedback obtained prior to inspection.

Inspector

Layla Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders are extremely knowledgeable. They ensure that all staff have a thorough understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements and their responsibility to keep children safe. Very robust policies and procedures are embedded and are thoroughly understood. This helps to protect children's welfare. Partnerships with professionals and other settings that children also attend are outstanding. This helps to promote exceptional continuity of care and learning for all children. Staff receive a wealth of support. Leaders observe their practice and provide regular meetings. This helps them to improve their already excellent skills and knowledge. Leaders recognise the importance of evaluating the continual professional development opportunities that continue to drive forward staff's excellent practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Two-year-old children delight as they find snails outdoors and use magnifying glasses to look at them more closely. Staff skilfully introduce mathematical awareness and ask children to count the snails and consider their shape and size. Older children recall a favourite story which contributes superbly towards their speaking and thinking skills. Staff provide opportunities for them to create the title character using pipe cleaners and twigs. This helps to support their creativity extremely well. As children watch builders working in the local area, they use toy bricks to make a bridge structure. Staff skilfully extend the activity and encourage children to undertake research using the computer and teach them about the local viaduct. This helps them to develop an excellent awareness of features within the local environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Transition arrangements are superbly planned for. Flexible sessions are provided prior to children starting. Staff use this time to gather meaningful information from parents and children settle in extremely well. Staff have established highly effective relationships with local school teachers. This helps older children to be exceptionally well prepared for the transfer to school. Children's physical health is given the utmost priority. They benefit significantly from daily active play outdoors. Children delight in participating in a creative activity where they make healthy lunchboxes using various craft materials. Staff ask purposeful questions and teach children the importance of making healthy food choices.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and children in receipt of additional funding, make superb progress. They learn numerous skills which gives them a firm foundation for future learning and school. Children demonstrate through their enthusiasm that they are extremely happy and eager to participate. For example, during an engaging group session, they eagerly answer questions, take turns to model different voices for staff and other children to imitate and sing songs using actions and interesting props. Two-year-old children make independent choices and lead their own play wonderfully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481916
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	1010942
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	St Cuthbert's Old School Nursery CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP534013
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	016142887682

St Cuthberts Old School Nursery registered in 2015 and is situated in the Cheadle area of Stockport. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff, seven of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday from 9am to 12pm and Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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