

Whittington Under Fives

Station Road, Whittington, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 4DA



Inspection date

3 July 2017

Previous inspection date

29 January 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

- Leaders demonstrate an excellent drive to improve through robust action planning and feedback from others. Actions taken to enhance the pre-school actively contribute to children's outstanding outcomes.
- Evaluation of staff practice is meticulous. Leaders continually challenge staff to become superb practitioners. Coaching and mentoring of staff significantly enhance their teaching to help further accelerate all aspects of children's development.
- Staff use highly comprehensive tracking systems to closely check individual children's progress. They use this information, their observations of children's learning and information from parents to plan a rich, varied and imaginative curriculum for children.
- The arrangements for children's move on to school are exceptional. Staff work very closely with teachers to enable children to feel part of the school before they start. Children have extremely positive attitudes about their move on to school.
- Parent partnership is superb. Staff have significantly improved this since the last inspection. They exchange regular information about children's development and staff meticulously support parents to continue children's learning at home.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities quickly grasp new skills and gaps in their learning close rapidly. Staff's dedication to working with other professionals to help support children and their families is first class.

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 superb monitoring of children's learning to more accurately compare the progress made by groups of children to help identify ways to accelerate it even further.

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 one of the leaders.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school leaders and the chairperson of the committee. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection, viewed their written feedback and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders act swiftly to implement changes in safeguarding legislation and update staff on new safeguarding procedures. All staff and leaders have a highly comprehensive knowledge of how to report child protection concerns. Leaders are highly critical and reflective. They have implemented a system to compare the progress of different groups of children. However, they have not yet reviewed this information fully to identify ways to improve children's progress further still.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is consistently strong, worthy of dissemination to others and constantly evolving. For example, staff review how best to teach children letters and sounds through using knowledge gained from training and discussing ideas with teachers from school. They have very high expectations of children's learning and use new ideas to make the most of every learning opportunity. For example, at snack time they teach children how to recognise their own name, count, compare different quantities and use mathematical language. Children have significantly high levels of concentration. Staff split children into small groups to skilfully support children of different ages and abilities to excel in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The detailed and well-implemented policies of the pre-school help to fully promote children's well-being. Staff provide an exciting learning environment for all children and successfully support those children who prefer to learn outside. Children are extremely keen and enthusiastic learners. Outside, they become animated as they thoroughly enjoy playing team games, such as hockey. Staff have a strong commitment to teaching children about the importance of eating nutritious food. For example, they grow vegetables with the children and collect and eat eggs from the school's chickens. This helps children to understand where food comes from. Children's behaviour is exceptional. They are kind to others and understand how being unkind can make others feel sad.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children rapidly grasp the skills they need for school. They can form letters correctly, recognise the sound words begin with and count backwards from six to zero. Children are highly motivated learners and can solve problems for themselves. They are very imaginative and enjoy role play in the pretend baker's shop. They read recipe books to learn how to make bread and use money to buy cakes from the shop. Children develop their already outstanding technology skills as they operate the till to sell items from their shop. Children have excellent literacy skills. They listen to stories without becoming distracted and they talk about the characters from the book. Children then choose what character they want to be in their forthcoming leavers' play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224222
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1090144
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	26
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Whittington Under Fives Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522422
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2015
Telephone number	01691670127

Whittington Under Fives registered in 1993 and operates in the village of Whittington, Shropshire. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. It opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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