

Wise Owl Nursery

143 Ash Bank Road, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST2 9DX



Inspection date

24 August 2017

Previous inspection date

15 June 2015

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

- Staff's professional development has a positive impact on enhancing their teaching. For example, staff in pre-school use the skills gained from training to provide continual outdoor access for children. This helps to support those who prefer to learn outside.
- Monitoring of children's progress is precise. Staff identify ways to enhance aspects of all children's development, such as mathematics. They work effectively with other agencies to support individual children to grasp new skills and close gaps in learning.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff manage it skilfully and consistently. They place an exceptionally strong emphasis on promoting children's exemplary personal, social and emotional skills. Staff are superb role models to children.
- Staff are highly skilled at observing children's development, assessing their progress and planning for their future learning. This helps to ensure children make at least good progress.
- The provider and manager have developed the nursery very well, to create excellent learning environments for children. They continually reflect on how they can accelerate children's skills even further, such as using mathematical language in role play.
- The arrangements for when children begin at the nursery, move to the next room and start school are excellent. This helps children to form extremely strong attachments to staff, feel secure in new environments and have positive attitudes to starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although some staff demonstrate outstanding practice, managers have not ensured that these high standards are consistent across the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice, to help address minor variations and raise standards to a consistently outstanding level.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- 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 good

The management team is highly ambitious. They have worked hard since the last inspection to enhance teaching to help children think for themselves and allow babies to explore and learn outside. Self-evaluation is effective and managers use the views of others to help plan for improvements. Safeguarding is effective. All staff, including the managers have an in-depth knowledge of child protection procedures. Managers follow safer recruitment procedures to vet staff and help ensure they are suitable. Partnerships with parents and staff at other settings children attend are strong. Parents are involved in all aspects of their children's development. Staff work hard with other teachers, to provide activities that allow older children to seamlessly build on their learning from school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff provide innovative activities that spark children's imaginations and build on children's eagerness to learn. For example, staff caring for babies, help them to recognise body parts using pictures and repetitive words in their newly created 'interactive corner'. In pre-school, children learn the importance of walking to school safely, ready for their imminent move on to school. Staff help children to understand how to use a zebra crossing and the role of a lollipop lady. This helps to teach children safety rules and broadens their understanding of different professions. The resources that staff use are strong and help reinforce their teaching through meaningful concepts.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff's teaching promotes children's outstanding physical, personal, social and emotional development. Toddlers develop excellent physical skills outside, including hitting a ball with a bat and holding chalk correctly to make marks. Older babies recognise and identify different feelings and emotions from facial expressions. Staff encourage them to imitate these through their own facial expressions, for example, smiling to represent being happy. Staff working with the youngest children are passionate about meeting the needs of babies. They care for them with sensitivity and take the time to discuss each child's needs with their parents, to help tailor children's care accordingly. Staff significantly promote children's good health through nutritious meals and excellent hygiene routines.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make at least good progress from their starting points. They are confident and older children have an extremely strong belief in their own ability. The oldest children are creative. For example, they use their imaginations to make boats and develop excellent teamwork as they race their boats against other teams. Children are developing a good understanding of the world, including why some of the boats sank. Toddlers have good listening skills, they listen to sounds they hear in the environment and name them. Pre-school children have a keen interest in books and can recognise the sound of different letters. The most able children can identify words that begin with the same letter sound.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY460575
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1095422
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	84
Name of registered person	Wise Owl Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906877
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2015
Telephone number	01782 303960

Wise Owl Nursery registered in 2013. It is one of two nurseries run by Wise Owl Nursery Limited. The nursery employs 18 members of staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two hold early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. It is open between 7am and 5.45pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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