

Mains Farm House Nursery

West Lane, CHESTER LE STREET, County Durham, DH3 3HL



Inspection date

11 October 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
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 inspirational management team truly values the staff. They implement highly effective staff supervision and focus professional development targets extremely well. It invests heavily in staff's personal and professional development. This helps to promote high staff morale and excellent outcomes for all children.
- Qualified and experienced staff provide an extremely warm and welcoming environment where every child is valued. Children enjoy an extensive and exciting range of well-planned activities that contributes to the rapid progress they make in their learning. They are extremely motivated and enthusiastic learners.
- Parents speak highly of the staff and the exceptionally varied experiences they offer children each day. They make extremely effective use of the online learning record to see their children's progress. They embrace opportunities to share children's learning at home.
- Staff provide exceptional support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They have attended training to effectively extend their knowledge and understanding of how to support children's individual needs. They put their training into practice successfully, helping to close any gaps in children's learning swiftly.
- Children show extremely high levels of engagement in activities. For example, two-year-old children demonstrate excellent listening skills during story time and show high levels of interest in the book.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend opportunities for staff to further develop key areas of practice linked to their own areas of interest and expertise to enhance the already excellent quality of teaching 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 the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, deputy manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff update their safeguarding training regularly and they demonstrate an excellent understanding of child protection procedures. The management team has developed strong links with the local authority early years development officer and uses feedback and training exceptionally well to develop the provision. They are extremely passionate about providing the very best care and education for children. They meticulously evaluate the quality of the provision, taking into account the views of children, parents and staff. The management team accurately identifies areas to enhance the provision. For example, staff are now supported to further develop their specific areas of expertise and share this with the wider team, to enhance the already excellent teaching even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Very detailed analysis of data and tracking of children's progress ensure that staff identify any gaps in children's learning immediately. Staff swiftly address the gaps so that children catch up quickly. Staff make use of every opportunity to support children's excellent early counting and problem-solving skills. For example, they support pre-school children to accurately count the number of children sitting at the table and to work out how many plates are needed at lunchtime. The management team establishes excellent partnerships with local schools. Staff share information about children's development and work together exceptionally well to support children during the move on to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff give children's physical and emotional well-being the highest priority. For example, staff support babies' developing mobility exceptionally well. Staff provide an extensive range of equipment to support them to balance and move independently. Babies are delighted to take their first steps. They clap and laugh when their key person praises them. Children's behaviour is frequently exemplary. For instance, two-year-old children are supported extremely well as they learn to share and take turns as they explore torches. They understand the high expectations and quickly learn the nursery values. Pre-school children help each other to behave well and to take responsibility for tasks, such as setting the tables and scraping the food from their plates at lunchtime.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are making excellent progress from their starting points. They are developing independence and a deep love of learning. For example, pre-school children spend a long time pretending to make birthday cakes with dough. They confidently count the candles on their cakes and excitedly sing to their friends. The skills they are acquiring prepare them exceptionally well for the next stage in their learning, including the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551880
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1111890
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Blue Sky Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP551879
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0191 3889048

Mains Farm House Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two with qualified teacher status and higher level qualifications in early years. There is one member of staff with an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, and three members of staff who are working towards further qualifications in early years. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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