

Beckermet Nursery

Mill Lane, Beckermet, Cumbria, CA21 2YD



Inspection date

9 November 2017

Previous inspection date

12 December 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager is passionate about the nursery and provides a high-quality service for children and their families. She has an accurate understanding of the quality of the nursery and regularly seeks the views of children, parents and staff to develop the nursery further. This contributes to the nursery's strong capacity to maintain continuous improvement.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff interact well with children as they join in with their play. They engage them well in activities and ask them questions that encourage children to think and share ideas.
- Staff provide a wide range of activities that promote children's active curiosity to learn. The environment is well-designed, stimulating and interesting. The use of low level lighting throughout the nursery helps to create a calm and nurturing atmosphere where children feel relaxed and at ease.
- Staff know their children extremely well. They build close and caring relationships with them. Staff take every opportunity to praise children's positive behaviour. This assists them in understanding what is expected of them and boosts their self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not maximise the use of children's interests to expand further opportunities for supporting early writing skills.
- There are times when staff do not always fully support children's independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise the use of children's interests to help extend more opportunities for supporting early writing skills
- extend the already good opportunities for supporting children's independence 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 children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility to keep children safe and secure. Arrangements for checking all staff and committee members' suitability are effective. Staff benefit from regular supervisory sessions, training and professional development opportunities. The manager monitors children's progress closely and quickly identifies if gaps are forming and more support is required. The nursery is very secure. Staff use a camera operated gated entrance to monitor all visitors to the nursery. Staff complete daily safety checks and routine risk assessments to help minimise potential hazards. Parent partnerships are good. Parents express a high regard for the nursery and the staff working with their children. Staff also work very effectively with other settings and professionals to promote continuity in children's care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They support children's learning during practical routines and activities. While sitting down at mealtimes, staff ask children to count the number of cups and plates required and how many children are sitting at the table. In group situations, children learn about letters and sounds, talk about the weather and enjoy sensory activities using food. Staff engage well with parents who become involved in children's learning right from the start. Staff obtain information to support planning and assessments and make good use of observations to identify what children need to learn next. Babies and younger children enjoy quiet times with staff while looking at books and singing action songs. They enjoy opportunities to play in the fresh air where they explore the natural environment and develop their physical skills using wheeled toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very caring and provide a nurturing environment, which helps put children at ease. They give gentle reminders to children that help them learn about boundaries and successfully deal with all behaviours. Children enjoy a range of healthy snacks and home-made meals prepared by the resident cook. All children benefit from fresh air and exercise outdoors, which further helps promote their healthy lifestyles. Overall, older children are supported to meet their own personal care needs, which helps towards preparing them for later moves on to school. The key-person system is well established throughout the nursery. Staff know their children well and effectively meet their needs. They prepare them well for future move though the nursery and so children quickly settle into each area. Children enjoy visits to places of interest in the village and enjoy fundraising events that support the nursery and other charities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making progress from their initial starting points. They learn good manners and explore difference and diversity throughout the year. Children listen and respond to instructions and they learn to share and take turns, all skills they require for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382153
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1080411
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	1 - 3
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Beckermat Playschool and Toddler Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904777
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2016
Telephone number	01946 841941

Beckermat Nursery registered in 2008 and is a committee run setting. The nursery employs 12 members of staff, 10 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications, including the manager who holds level 6. Sessions run from 7.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and from 7.30am to 5pm on Fridays, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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