

Blue Hoots Pre-School and Out of School Care Ltd



Blue Hoots Pre School, The Old School House, Birmingham Road, Blakedown, KIDDERMINSTER, Worcestershire, DY10 3JN

Inspection date 18 December 2017
Previous inspection date 13 May 2014

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff place a high priority on promoting children's communication, listening and attention skills through their interactions. Staff plan well for the varying ages of children to help ensure activities are appropriate and motivating.
- Overall, staff establish good relationships with parents. They include them in their children's learning and value their feedback and suggestions. Parents are very complimentary about the pre-school and the support they receive.
- Well-qualified staff provide children with a range of exciting activities and opportunities. For example, older children are encouraged to create their own party hats and enjoy participating in their Christmas party.
- Staff provide a calm, nurturing, relaxed environment where children feel safe and at ease. Children form close relationships with dedicated staff and confidently seek them out to join them in their play. The sensitive interactions by each key person positively supports children's emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently gather in-depth information from parents about children's achievements and interests at home to further enhance their learning.
- Assessments do not consistently show the smaller steps children are making within development bands to allow staff to more effectively bridge any small gaps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen ways to help parents share what they know their children can do at home to further support assessment and activity planning
- refine assessments to enable staff to see and monitor the gradual progress children are making through the development bands more effectively.

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 pre-school deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager/provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school and out-of-school club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Preston

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff receive regular training and support to help them identify any signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust and help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager monitors staff practice and children's progress effectively. She observes staff and gives constructive feedback on the quality of teaching. She encourages her staff to take lead roles and develop and share their skills. Staff make good use of training, advice and their own research to improve the provision. Partnerships with others are well established, including working with schools that children move on to and other professionals working with children. Self-evaluation allows the staff team to reflect and identify areas they wish to improve to support constant improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and understand how children learn. They observe and assess children's development, using information gathered to plan activities and support their next steps in learning. Staff ensure that the pre-school and out-of-school environment is well set up and activities are interesting for children. The children enjoy and are absorbed in free choice and planned activities. Staff enhance and support children's learning through skilful discussions and questioning. They are skilled at bringing familiar stories to life and children enthusiastically join in using props, talking about the pictures and what will happen next. Parents are very well informed about children's achievements and are provided with ideas on how they can support learning at home. Children attending the out-of-school club have opportunities to socialise with their friends, as well as engaging in stimulating activities that support their formal learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff get to know children, their families and circumstances extremely well. This enables them to help children settle quickly and feel secure. Children behave well and learn good social skills. They learn to be kind and helpful, and to share and take turns. Children independently select high-quality resources, make choices about what they do and where they want to play. Children follow good hygiene routines and learn about the benefits of healthy eating and exercise. They enjoy taking responsibility for small tasks. For example, they tidy away toys at the end of the session. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop independence and good self-care skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including for those who the setting receives additional funding, make good progress. Children of all ages are eager to explore their environment and develop their own ideas. They like doing things themselves and sharing their ideas with others. Children develop skills that help them progress to the next stages in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409672
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	1102263
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 - 11
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Blue Hoots Pre-School & Out Of School Care Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903517
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2014
Telephone number	01562701333

Blue Hoots Pre-School & Out of School Care Ltd re-registered in 2010. The pre-school and out-of-school club employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 6 to 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The out-of-school care opens Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.40am and 3.15pm until 6.00pm. There is a holiday club open during school holidays operating from 7.30am until 6.00pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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