

Hobby Horse Day Nursery

Meadow Croft, Mosham Road, Blaxton, Doncaster, DN9 3AZ



Inspection date

8 January 2018

Previous inspection date

14 March 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

- The leadership and management team is strong and effective. They have reviewed all aspects of the nursery and have a clear vision and plans for the future.
- Parents provide detailed information about what children can already do when they enrol. They speak highly of the partnership they share with staff. Information about what children are learning is exchanged regularly.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, those who speak English as an additional language and children who receive additional funding make good progress.
- Staff identify what children already know and can do when they first start at the setting. They use the information to plan activities that are well targeted to meet children's individual needs, overall, supporting them to make good progress.
- Children enjoy being active and learning new things. They are eager to explore independently and join in enthusiastically with small-group activities.
- Staff are positive role models. They consistently promote the use of good manners and appropriate behaviour.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Methods of managing the performance of staff do not always focus on what they can do even better in order to continually improve their teaching.
- Staff do not always provide enough challenge for the older and most-able children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve methods of performance management so that staff have a clear understanding of how they can continue to develop their knowledge and teaching skills
- provide older and the most-able children with higher levels of challenge to help them make more rapid progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of their role and responsibility in keeping children safe. They have completed relevant training and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager implements rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff make regular and precise observations and assessments of children's learning. Where staff identify gaps in children's learning, they swiftly put plans in place to help them catch up quickly. This helps to ensure that all children make good progress from their starting points. Staff work closely with local schools to help children gain skills that prepare them well for their next stages in learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified staff have a good understanding of children's abilities and next steps in learning. Staff support children to use their imaginations. For example, they provide resources to enable children to role play using their own personal experiences, such as going to the shop. The environment is well organised and allows children to make choices about what they would like to play with. Children form strong attachments with their key person and the other staff within the nursery. They form positive friendships and develop their social skills well. Staff in the baby room have close, secure relationships with the babies and know them very well. Young children manipulate play dough and confidently make choices of which tools to use, developing good coordination. Staff promote children's literacy skills well. They read books that children choose and use good expression to maintain children's interest.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and secure. They are confident about sharing their views. For example, young children tell the staff what they would like to do next. Children have a good understanding of the routines of the setting. They understand what will be happening next as changes in routines are explained clearly to them. This supports them to be ready and enthusiastic to take part in tidying away their toys. Children have good opportunities to be outdoors on a daily basis, to play in the open air and to practise their physical skills. They enjoy exploring the natural environment in the meadow area. The staff encourage healthy eating and children take part in interesting activities where they learn and talk about healthy foods.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are very good listeners and able communicators. They contribute well to discussions and recognise that they need to take turns. Children explore and investigate and show high levels of emotional well-being. They enjoy a variety of activities which develop their good mathematical skills. For instance, staff help older children to count and match numbers with quantities. Children gain skills that prepare them well for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	318113
Local authority	Doncaster
Inspection number	1087799
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Margaret Cavanagh
Registered person unique reference number	RP908738
Date of previous inspection	14 March 2014
Telephone number	01302 772605

Hobby Horse Day Nursery registered in 2000. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, there is one with a level 6 qualification, one at level 5, three at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens, Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm all year round except bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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