

Elmore Kindergarten - Middlewood



The Gatehouse, 601 Middlewood Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S6 1TN

Inspection date	25 January 2018
Previous inspection date	3 February 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

- Practitioners provide a good variety of challenging and interesting activities for children to explore. Children make good progress. They enjoy learning and are eager to take part.
- Practitioners continuously strive to develop the provision for children. Since the last inspection, the outdoor area has been developed to provide greater learning opportunities for children.
- Practitioners work well together. They are good role models for children, for example they interact politely with each other. Children benefit from the secure and nurturing environment which helps them to build positive self-esteem.
- Children are confident and behave well. They learn to have regard for the needs of other children and to take turns. Children develop good independence skills and make choices during activities and routines.
- Parents speak very highly about the nursery. They comment on how practitioners meet their children's needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not yet focus practitioner's professional development as sharply as possible to raise the quality of teaching and learning to the highest level.
- Practitioners do not fully support parents to complement or further extend their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance professional development that focuses more sharply on further raising teaching skills and promotes even better outcomes for children
- enhance the information shared with parents to help them to complement and extend their children's learning at home.

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 practitioners and children 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 practitioners working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of parent's views through a recent parent survey.

Inspector

Susan Riley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Practitioners have a confident knowledge of their role in protecting children from harm. They know whom to contact if they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. Practitioners complete ongoing child protection training to help ensure they keep their knowledge up to date and have the relevant contact numbers to report any concerns promptly. Good recruitment and induction procedures help to ensure that practitioners are suitable to work with children. The nursery is clean, safe and secure. Practitioners conduct daily risk assessment checks of the internal and external surroundings to minimise any potential hazards. The manager makes good use of self-evaluation to identify the strengths and areas for development within the nursery. This helps them to provide good overall standards of care. The managers monitors the progress of all children at regular intervals. They identify where there are gaps in learning and put effective support in place to close them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified practitioners get to know children well. They observe children's learning and make accurate assessments of their progress. There is good interaction throughout activities and practitioners promote children's language skills very well. They follow the children's lead and join in with their play. Practitioners motivate children with lots of praise and encouragement. All children have opportunities to make marks and some children are beginning to give meaning to them. Practitioners provide children with good opportunities to develop their mathematical skills effectively. Children build with different shaped blocks as they match them to the picture. They talk about the size and colour of the block. Practitioners support children's physical skills effectively. For example, children have opportunities to dig in sand and they enjoy the challenge of exploring the play equipment outdoors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and have good relationships with practitioners. They settle quickly into the routine and play well with, and alongside, other children. Children understand the daily routines. For instance, when a specific song is played, children immediately stop and begin to tidy away. Practitioners actively promote children's physical well-being. They provide nutritious snacks and meals, and ensure children adopt and maintain good cleanliness routines.

Outcomes for children are good

All children continue to make good progress from their starting points in preparation for their future learning and the move on to school. Children develop good independence skills through activities and routines, such as serving themselves at mealtimes. They enjoy regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise in the stimulating outdoor environment. Children's creativity is promoted very well which helps children to explore and make new connections.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289488
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	1087942
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 - 4
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Elmore Kindergarten Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP520247
Date of previous inspection	3 February 2014
Telephone number	0114 2348 998

Elmore Kindergarten - Middlewood registered in 2004. The nursery employs five childcare practitioners. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5 and three members of staff hold a qualification level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. 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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