

St. Aidan's Day Nursery

Harraby Community Campus, Edgehill Road, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA1 3SL



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

29 January 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff build excellent partnerships with parents and other professionals. Support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is exceptional. All parents receive detailed information about children's progress. They contribute well to staff's accurate assessments and share their children's special moments from home to provide continuity in learning.
- Staff's expert knowledge and understanding of all children's individual needs, abilities and development ensure every child's uniqueness is met. The inclusiveness of the provision and staff's high-quality teaching ensures that every child is included in all activities. Staff use additional funding astutely to address gaps in children's learning and to help them catch up quickly.
- Managers implement highly effective performance management systems for staff, which results in higher standards of teaching and specialist care for children. Focused individual meetings for staff identify training and areas for professional development, which contribute to staff's exceptional knowledge and understanding of how children learn best.
- All children thoroughly enjoy their learning. They behave exceptionally well and show high levels of respect to their friends and staff. Children cooperatively share in activities, patiently wait for their turn while playing games, and initiate conversations with staff during circle time activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already excellent opportunities for children outdoors and review the impact on children's outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children enjoying activities indoors and outdoors, and during their interactions with staff in all age group rooms.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of children's learning and staff's practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled the provider's documentation and children's records and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of all staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and viewed the most recent questionnaires.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff team all display high levels of confidence in their knowledge of safeguarding and its wider issues. They confidently explain what to look out for and the procedures to follow in the event of any concern. The manager offers extremely robust recruitment, induction and training to maintain exceptional levels of practice and to ensure staff's suitability. The manager is inspiring and provides highly effective supervision to mentor and guide all staff. Parents are extremely positive about the nursery and express a high regard for everyone working with their children. The manager and staff have comprehensive systems to reflect on their practice and drive forward further improvement. For example, they already recognise how they can enhance the already excellent opportunities for children outdoors and review the impact on children's outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff devise individual plans and extremely informative learning profiles that contain accurate observations and assessments. These are consistently shared with parents and other professionals working with the children. Staff demonstrate high-quality teaching. They adapt activities with precision, enabling all children to participate confidently. Staff stimulate children's communication and language and problem-solving skills exceptionally well. Children are captivated while making their own musical instruments and enthusiastically recall stories at circle time. Staff encourage children of all ages to explore and investigate in an extensive range of sensory activities. For example, children mix ingredients together to make gingerbread men and enjoy comparing the difference between real and manufactured play food.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff know the children extremely well. They gather detailed information from parents when children first attend and each time they change rooms, to promote consistency in care. The baby room has a calm and soothing atmosphere. Staff speak gently to babies, providing reassurance and highly sensitive support. The well-planned and well-resourced rooms create inspiring and challenging learning environments. Staff support children's physical play outdoors. They help children learn about risk and keeping themselves and others safe. Staff challenge children and extend their learning. They help to promote healthy lifestyles and stringent routines support children who have food allergies and complex dietary needs.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are truly inspired and excited in their learning. They make excellent progress given their starting points and gain the skills they require for starting school. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who receive additional funding make outstanding progress. They are highly motivated and very eager to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498092
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1036121
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	118
Name of registered person	St Aidan's Day Nursery Trustees
Registered person unique reference number	RP901726
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01228586753

St. Aidan's Day Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery is in Harraby and is one of two privately owned nurseries in Carlisle. The nursery employs 23 members of staff. Of these, 20 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports a number of children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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