

Smart Kids Childcare

Bhailok Square, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 8DY



Inspection date

6 February 2018

Previous inspection date

22 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The management team works exceptionally well together and share a clear vision for the nursery and development of the staff team. Staff are enthusiastic practitioners and have the highest of expectations of all children in their care.
- The quality of teaching is excellent and significantly enhances all aspects of children's learning and development. Staff have a first-rate knowledge of children's interests and next steps in learning. All children make excellent progress in their development and are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities extremely well and children who speak English as an additional language. Meaningful partnerships are in place with a range of other professionals to help to support the individual needs of all children. Staff use a range of strategies to help all children to develop new skills.
- Staff are superb role models for children. They engage children exceptionally well in play and learning and are enthusiastic about their role in providing excellent care and learning opportunities for children. Children have made strong attachments with staff and their needs are identified and nurtured extremely well.
- Constant evaluation of the nursery is in place. The management team welcomes the views of children, parents and professionals to drive ongoing improvement.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Parents are very complimentary about the service the nursery provides and are fully involved in processes of assessment.

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 tracking procedures to assess children's progress using an even wider range of groups.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff, parents and the management team during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the senior management team. She looked at documentation, such as children's development records, processes of assessment, a sample of policies and procedures, training records and the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection to take account of their views.

Inspector

Elisia Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate excellent knowledge of effective safeguarding practice. The management team places immense value on the importance of training and professional development of their team. Staff are supported through staff meetings, mentoring, observations of teaching and supervision meetings. Training has a significant impact on children. For example, staff have recently attended a mathematics course which has encouraged them to reflect on how they provide mathematical opportunities for younger children. Staff regularly meet as a team to share good practice and meet with other professionals as they attend moderation meetings. Staff regularly track children's progress to identify any gaps in their learning. These are quickly addressed through training or implementing interventions. Children are extremely well prepared for future learning to school and beyond.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are excellent teachers and are very skilful at knowing when to step back and when to extend children's play. They plan a range of imaginative activities which children relish taking part in. For example, babies enthusiastically use puppets during a song and rhyme session. Toddlers enjoy problem solving by building a house for a tiger as they use construction blocks and pre-school children begin to think about the needs of others as they enjoy a visit from a dog who supports people with a visual impairment. Staff reshape learning by posing challenges for children, model how to use resources and asking a range of questions to support children's thinking skills. Staff consistently observe children as they play to consider how they can maximise children's progress. They are considering further ways to enhance assessment processes even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The nursery has a strong family feel. Staff are excellent at supporting children's emotional well-being. For example, staff play alongside children as they play with baby dolls as they prepare to welcome a new sibling in the family. Children are supported as they prepare to leave for school as teachers are invited into the nursery to discuss children's needs. Children's behaviour is excellent and they are learning how to share and negotiate in their play. Children are beginning to understand about risk and safety. They enthusiastically act out an emergency evacuation in the role-play area. They learn about the wider world in imaginative ways. For example, children visit a care home for the elderly and play alongside the residents as they draw pictures and paint together.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress in their learning and development. They are encouraged to make decisions, forge friendships and be independent. Children are highly motivated learners and have a thirst to explore the environment and discover new things. They are extremely confident and are superbly prepared with the key skills they will need for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453915
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1100552
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 - 5
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Smart Kids Childcare
Registered person unique reference number	RP907794
Date of previous inspection	22 May 2017
Telephone number	01772 719719

Smart Kids Childcare registered in 2013. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two staff who hold early years professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, except for the period between Christmas and New Year. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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