

Little Footsteps Nursery

30 Columbus Ravine, SCARBOROUGH, North Yorkshire, YO12 7JT



Inspection date

14 February 2018

Previous inspection date

23 September 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 provide children with excellent opportunities to explore their surroundings and to be physically active. They effectively promote children's understanding of the world around them. For instance, staff take children on regular exciting outings, including trips to nearby country parks, woods and the beach.
- Children are provided with healthy options during mealtimes. Staff promote good hygiene practices. They talk to children about why it is important to ensure they wash their hands and get rid of germs. This helps to promote children's understanding of the importance of being healthy.
- Staff work closely with other early years providers and schools where children attend. They share information regarding children's learning and development needs. Staff liaise with teachers and arrange robust settling-in sessions when children start school. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Children demonstrate good communication skills. They fully participate in conversations. Children show interest and enthusiasm in their response to questions asked.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Leaders have not identified ways to target specific training needs for staff through highly effective performance management systems that help raise teaching skills.
- Leaders have not fully established precise monitoring systems that help to identify any possible emerging gaps in children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed precise performance management procedures and accurately identify specific training needs for staff that help to raise the quality of teaching
- refine the already good ways to monitor children's progress to identify any possible emerging gaps in their learning.

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 senior nursery officer.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders have implemented detailed child protection policies and ensure staff have a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures. Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For instance, they remind children about their dog safety rules, including holding up their hands when walking past dogs. Children are fully involved in all aspects of identifying and thinking of different ways to address hazards in their environment. Children demonstrate an excellent understanding of rules and boundaries within the setting. Leaders review the overall quality of the provision. They listen and value the views of others in helping them to identify and address areas of development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good and in some instances is outstanding. The well-qualified staff, particularly in the pre-school room, offer superb opportunities for children to learn about animals, plants and features of the outdoor environment. They demonstrate high levels of enthusiasm and use excellent questioning techniques that help children to develop their thinking skills. Children delight in discovering woodland animals, including squirrels. They learn about the different foods animals eat. This helps to develop children's understanding of how to care for other living things. Staff complete observations and assessments of children's learning well, overall. Parents have access to their children's learning records through a secure online learning portal. They are complimentary about the setting and the quality of care staff provide for their children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They are confident and form strong friendship groups. Good relationships between staff promote positive interactions. Staff are caring and friendly. Children settle in well. Staff complete daily checks and regular risk assessments. This includes ensuring toys, resources and outdoor equipment are clean and hygienic. This helps to ensure that the environment is safe for children. Children develop good levels of independence. They manage their self-care needs well and learn to put on their own coat and shoes ready for outdoor play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They demonstrate excellent mathematical skills. Children use measuring equipment and make comparisons between different objects they find during nature walks. Younger children act out their favourite stories. This involves them stomping through squelching mud during a trip through the woods. Children recognise shapes and talk about patterns they see in their environment. They are well equipped with the key skills needed for future learning and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436525
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	1125066
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	60
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Little Footsteps Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531091
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2015
Telephone number	01723360719

Little Footsteps Nursery registered in 2011. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including two with early years professional status. The nursery opens all year round from Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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