

Children 1st @ Sheffield

39 Scotland Street, SHEFFIELD, S3 7BS



Inspection date	14 February 2018
Previous inspection date	25 July 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 key-person system is extremely well established so that children's emotional well-being is supported highly effectively. For example, babies have tailor-made plans when they first start, to establish strong routines and support them to make exceptionally strong bonds with their key person.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff are positive role models and they have high expectations of children. Pre-school children are particularly skilled in resolving disagreements and all children play harmoniously alongside one another.
- The learning environment indoors and outdoors is extremely well organised. Children quickly become confident and independent learners. For example, pre-school children spend long periods of time exploring ice. They are highly motivated and demonstrate excellent concentration as they investigate how to melt the ice.
- Parents speak highly of staff and the varied experiences they offer children each day. Parents make extremely effective use of the online learning record to see their children's progress. They embrace the opportunities to share children's learning at home and feel exceptionally well supported by staff to become part of the nursery community.
- Leaders are extremely passionate about the service they provide for children and their families. They have established a strong vision and work with a wide range of agencies to ensure all children reach their full potential and all families are fully supported.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend opportunities for staff to further enhance key areas of practice linked to their own areas of interest and expertise.

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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery leadership team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff use their training and experience to support families and to identify concerns about children's well-being. Leaders are highly organised and motivated to achieve the highest standards across the nursery. They make sure that training is completed and implemented successfully. Qualified and experienced staff benefit from regular supervision meetings with the manager. Leaders evaluate the quality of the provision, taking into account the views of children, parents and staff. They have recently implemented a system to support staff even further in taking leadership of elements of practice and developing expertise across the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children's progress over time is carefully monitored by staff. They swiftly put plans in place to close gaps in learning so that children achieve excellent outcomes. They use their exceptional understanding of children's interests and needs to provide challenges and to get children to think for themselves. All children have superb opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills. For example, toddlers listen extremely carefully at story time and talk to their key person about what they can see in the pictures. Staff expertly help children to recall things they have already learnt and to apply their knowledge to new situations. For example, pre-school children talk confidently about the importance of drinking water to remain hydrated.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide an extremely warm and welcoming environment where every child is valued. The wealth of opportunities for children to participate in activities helps them to stay focused and interested. For instance, the outdoor area is exceptionally well resourced to support children of all ages to learn independently. The physical skills of babies are extremely well supported as they learn to walk. They competently move from one activity to another and respond exceptionally well to praise from adults. Lunchtime is an extremely sociable time. Staff place a strong emphasis on teaching children about the importance of healthy lifestyles. Older children take great pride in helping with lunchtime routines. They help to set the tables, serve their own lunch and tidy away the dishes.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points. Children are very well prepared for school. Older children gain a secure understanding of letters and the sounds they represent. They demonstrate this as they read simple words in their play. Children become independent learners and are highly engaged in their own learning. For example, babies are delighted as their key person blows bubbles for them to catch.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403676
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	1064155
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 - 4
Total number of places	148
Number of children on roll	222
Name of registered person	Breedon House Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900832
Date of previous inspection	25 July 2013
Telephone number	0114 279 8892

Children 1st @ Sheffield registered in 1996. The nursery employs 39 members of childcare staff. Of these, 30 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. 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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