

Highview Nursery

144 Tower Hill Road, Upholland, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 0DT



Inspection date

1 March 2018

Previous inspection date

5 December 2014

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 manager has a wealth of knowledge and experience underpinned by ongoing training and research. Her systems for recruitment and methods of managing her team's performance are highly effective and contribute to excellent practice.
- Staff are highly skilled teachers. The extremely dedicated and qualified team demonstrates an exceptional understanding of their professional responsibilities and how children learn. Staff plan inspiring activities based on children's interests. They use accurate observation and assessment to effectively plan for children's next steps in learning.
- Children confidently lead play with expert support from staff. Staff extend children's learning and add specific resources or pose a question to encourage children's thinking skills. They are adept at meeting the needs of children of different ages.
- Staff act as positive role models and their interaction with children is excellent. Children are extremely confident, self-assured and their behaviour is exemplary.
- Partnerships with the other settings children attend are very well developed. Information about children's learning is exchanged frequently and contributes to a strongly coordinated approach to helping children make swift progress.
- The manager and her team continually strive for improvement. Well-focussed improvement plans are implemented in the pursuit of excellence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop methods of supporting home learning so that even more children benefit from the existing, excellent collaboration with parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the provider. 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

Val Aspinall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that her staff team has a robust understanding of local child protection procedures. New staff complete in-depth safeguarding training during their induction to ensure they can immediately prioritise children's safety and welfare. The manager's methods of monitoring children's progress are meticulous. She scrutinises data collected from comparing the attainment of different groups of children and implements detailed plans to address any gaps identified. For example, boys' progress in literacy has improved greatly as a result of staff devising varied and imaginative activities expertly matched to children's individual learning style. Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents contribute to the nursery improvement plan and are kept well-informed about their children's progress. The manager is keen to further develop the already excellent home-learning activities, so that even more children benefit from a highly coordinated approach to their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children make consistently swift progress in their learning. Staff are highly skilled at knowing when to use questioning to develop children's ideas further and when to step back and encourage children's deep involvement in play. For example, when children are plotting a route on their map, staff encourage them to think about familiar destinations along the route. Similarly, when children are deeply absorbed in lining up different lengths of straws in play dough, staff leave them to concentrate fully on their own ideas. Staff develop innovative ideas to match children's next steps in learning with their interests. For example, children learn mathematical concepts and prepositions as they manoeuvre themselves under, over and through lengths of elastic which they pretend are laser beams as they play at being superheroes. Children listen to stories and confidently recall the plot.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff gather lots of information about children when they start, helping to get to know them swiftly. Children have strong attachments to staff and have many opportunities to share their family experiences, helping them to feel valued. Children learn to value and respect people whose culture or life experience is different from their own. Staff use puppets to actively promote a 'can do' attitude. Children encourage each other and cheer each other on. The nursery exudes a calm and playful atmosphere. Children play extremely well together and show high levels of independence. Staff are exceptionally good at helping children develop their imagination and creativity. For example, during role play, children fly off on their magic carpet and visit the jungle, meeting lots of wild animals on the way.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress and show exceptional levels of confidence and a desire to communicate their ideas and thoughts. They listen very well and are very keen to respond when asked a question. They 'have a go' at challenging tasks and are proud once they complete these. Preparation for school is outstanding. For example, from the age of two, children calmly line up, serve themselves lunch and carry their plates to the table.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309338
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1103570
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Jean Ann Hurst
Registered person unique reference number	RP909822
Date of previous inspection	5 December 2014
Telephone number	01695 633 309

Highview Nursery registered in 1992. It is one of two nurseries run by the provider. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm all year, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs five members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff holds a qualification at level 2, three hold qualifications at level 3 and one at level 4.

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