

Darnall Community Nursery

Darnall Childrens Centre, 563 Staniforth Road, Sheffield, S9 4RA



Inspection date

5 March 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
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 voluntary committee and manager are fully dedicated to continuous improvement. They invest heavily in staff's personal and professional development. This helps to promote high staff morale and the highest levels of achievement for children.
- The quality of teaching is highly effective. Staff use precise observations and timely assessments of children's learning to plan fun and challenging experiences. Activities are targeted extremely well at supporting children to build on their individual skills and abilities. Children make excellent progress in all aspects of their learning based on their individual capabilities.
- The dedicated management team and staff work superbly together and are committed to meeting the specific needs of individual families. They work tirelessly to seek out the services and funding to help children make the best levels of progress.
- The learning environment is highly stimulating and inclusive. It promotes choice and independence and celebrates children's learning and development exceptionally well.
- Children are extremely well behaved, confident, self-assured and highly motivated to learn. They make individual choices in their play and staff continually extend their learning and levels of achievement.
- Staff maximise the opportunities for children to learn through the natural environment. For example, children explore and discover in the natural outdoor sheds and inside nurture spaces. This helps children to persevere and investigate and 'have a go'.

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 highly effective partnership working with parents that fully supports children's understanding of healthy lifestyles.

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

Inspector

Rachael Barrett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team and provider are highly organised and motivated to achieve the highest standards across the nursery. Staff benefit hugely from regular supervision and coaching with the manager and provider. They ensure that training is completed, disseminated and implemented successfully throughout the nursery and with other providers and professionals. Staff use their training and experience very well to meet families' individual and diverse needs and to identify concerns about children's well-being. Safeguarding is effective. Parents speak passionately about the dedicated and supportive staff who know their children exceptionally well and provide experiences their children enjoy.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their exceptional understanding of the children's interests and needs to provide challenges and to get children to think for themselves. Even the youngest children demonstrate excellent concentration skills as they create dens in the outdoor area. Children listen to stories and join in with the actions and repeated words and phrases. All children have superb opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language benefit exceptionally well from the use of signs and visual prompts to help them to communicate most effectively. Staff use their detailed assessments of children's learning to monitor the progress they make and to close any gaps. The managers monitor the overall educational programmes exceptionally well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

All children's emotional well-being is exceptionally well supported. The environment, both indoors and outdoors, and the plentiful high-quality resources help children to create imaginative learning experiences of their own. Children are interested in and excited about their time at the nursery. All children, including babies, have the opportunity and freedom to explore and investigate the well-planned learning areas. All areas are clearly defined and supervised to help children to find the things they need. Staff make sure children know that they are valued and that their contributions are praised. They celebrate their own achievements and delight in proudly displaying their own creations and art. Parental partnerships are already highly effective and the manager is currently considering how to refine these even further. For example, by promoting healthy lifestyles, such as teeth cleaning, providing healthy packed lunches and regular exercise.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy showing what they know and can do. They accept challenges and are engaged and motivated to learn. All children demonstrate high levels of concentration and excellent listening skills as they learn to take turns and participate during small-group time. They develop early mathematics, writing and literacy skills through planned purposeful play. They are extremely well prepared for learning in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497527
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	1036116
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	48
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Active Community Trust Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901765
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0114 2423510

Darnall Community Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager and two additional staff hold early years professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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