

The Northern Lights Pre-School and Out of School Club

3 Raven Street, HALIFAX, West Yorkshire, HX1 4NB



Inspection date

13 March 2018

Previous inspection date

8 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Managers promote a strong culture of continuous improvement. They support the committed and enthusiastic staff team very effectively.
- Staff observe children closely and regularly assess their development to identify precise next steps for learning. This helps staff to plan consistently to support children's individual learning needs. All children make good progress.
- The experienced staff provide a welcoming and nurturing environment. This helps children to settle quickly and supports their emotional well-being. Children behave well.
- Partnerships with parents, and with external agencies, are very good. Staff involve parents fully in children's learning and encourage them to play an active part in the pre-school. Parents comment positively on the excellent level of care.
- Staff support the development of children's language skills in English very effectively. This means all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their communication skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide consistent opportunities for children to develop their own ideas and think through and solve problems for themselves.
- Although children enjoy a range of outings to the local community, those who prefer to learn outdoors do not have frequent access to play and take part in activities outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich opportunities that encourage children to think through things for themselves and develop ideas or solve simple problems
- enhance provision for children to learn and play outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact of this on the outcomes for children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff and committee members.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are confident about the procedures they must follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They are vigilant in implementing these, including checking the identity of visitors to the pre-school before they enter. Managers support staff through thorough induction processes, discuss practice during supervision meetings and offer regular staff meetings with a strong focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning. Managers provide targeted training which has a positive impact on children. Managers take into account the views of parents, staff and children when reflecting on the quality of the provision. For example, managers used feedback from parents to identify the need for training on promoting positive behaviour. Staff invite teachers into to help children who are moving on to school and ensure good support is in place.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a broad range of activities which motivates children to learn and is appropriate for their age and stage of development. Children independently make choices in their play. For example, they decorate boxes using glue and coloured paper and select their own paint colours. Children join in with their favourite rhymes and refrains from familiar stories, which develops their early literacy skills well. Parents attend sessions about children's development and use a variety of home learning bags to complement children's activities at the pre-school. This supports continuity of learning and good outcomes successfully.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have an excellent understanding of children's care needs and prioritise children's welfare. They tailor settling-in arrangements, including home visits, to ensure that children settle quickly and well. Children learn about the wider community and about people who can help them. For example, staff invite parents into the pre-school to talk about their work, including a doctor, dentist and optician. Children visit local shops to buy ingredients for cooking activities and taste food from other countries, as they find out about festivals from around the world. They learn to count in each other's home languages. Parents particularly value the strong emphasis by staff on promoting children's understanding about healthy lifestyles, including enjoying nutritional food and brushing their teeth well. Children enjoy caring for a tortoise and goldfish, which helps them to understand more about the natural world.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well prepared with the key skills they will need for future learning, including the eventual move to school. Children are confident communicators and show a positive attitude to learning. They form firm friendships together. Children listen carefully to staff and cooperate well with the clear boundaries and routines. For example, children help to tidy away toys and resources, to maintain a safe environment for their play. Older children develop good early mathematical skills, including counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY454743
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	1102451
Type of provision	Sessional 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	48
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Association of Islamic Charitable Projects
Registered person unique reference number	RP901767
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2014
Telephone number	01422 251925

The Northern Lights Pre-School and Out of School Club registered in 2012 and is managed by a voluntary organisation. The setting employs ten members of childcare staff. Eight of these hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with qualified teacher status. The setting is open Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am to midday and midday to 3pm. The pre-school is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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