

Saplings Day Nursery

552 Wigan Road, Westhoughton, Bolton, BL5 2BX



Inspection date	20 March 2018
Previous inspection date	14 February 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager and staff are passionate and committed to providing high levels of care. They regularly evaluate their practice and have identified key areas they would like to develop in the future. The views of parents are actively sought to drive improvement.
- Teaching is strong. Staff plan activities, which incorporate children's interests to engage their natural curiosities. Children enjoy a wide range of activities and make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities very well. They work in close partnership with other professionals to support children's individual needs.
- The key-person system is extremely strong. Staff liaise regularly with parents and understand children's individual care and learning needs. This exchange of information ensures staff provide consistency of care for children. Parents are extremely complimentary about the care children receive.
- Children start to understand the importance of healthy lifestyles as they eat a wholesome varied menu, brush their teeth daily and have weekly cookery sessions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not provided with enough opportunities to review and share good practice with one another, to raise the quality of teaching and learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance systems of performance management, so that staff consistently share good practice with one another and strengthen their already good knowledge.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents, staff and the management team during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation, such as records of children's development, a sample of policies and procedures, training records and processes for evaluating the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of the views of parents through written feedback comments.

Inspector

Elisia Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand the appropriate procedures they must follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are vigilant, as they care for children and complete risk assessments to ensure the environment is free from hazards. The manager supports the staff team well. For example, staff complete induction processes and attend supervisory meetings. The manager works within rooms alongside staff and offers support and mentoring. Staff attend targeted professional development opportunities, which has a positive impact on children. For example, staff have recently attended training on teaching phonics and supporting children's language skills. The manager tracks children's progress to ensure that any gaps in learning are identified. These are quickly addressed. Effective partnerships are in place with other professionals, including local schools.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular observations of children as they play and plan a range of activities, which support children to achieve the next steps in their learning. Staff are skilful at reshaping learning and ask a range of questions to support children's thinking skills. For example, children enjoy drawing self-portraits as they view their reflection in a mirror. Staff ask children to identify similarities and differences as they compare facial features. Staff support children's communication and language well. For example, children enjoy singing sessions and join in enthusiastically with animated voices and actions, which are modelled by staff. Parents are involved in children's learning and regularly contribute to children's assessment through sharing children's achievements from home. Partnerships with parents are extremely strong.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The nursery is an extremely warm and family orientated environment. Children have made extremely strong attachments with staff and they are happy and content. Staff have a superb understanding of children's individual needs and place their needs at the heart of their practice. Children are superbly supported by staff as they move throughout the nursery. Staff are excellent role models and encourage children to use good manners and consider the needs of others. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Children actively contribute to expectations. For example, they have made their own positive behaviour rules, which are displayed and reference this to remind others of expectations. Children enjoy finding out about the wider world. For instance, they enjoy outings in the local environment, explore festivals from other cultures and access electronic tablets.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development from their initial starting points. Children are self-assured and have high levels of self-esteem and confidence. They lead their own play and are active learners who enjoy exploring the environment. Children are well prepared with the skills they need for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388729
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	1102168
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Saplings Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP528745
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2014
Telephone number	01942 818 334

Saplings Day Nursery registered in 2009. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, two members of staff hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, four members of staff hold a qualification at level 3, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 2 and one member of staff is unqualified. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm.

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