

Lever Edge Early Years Unit

Lever Edge Primary Academy, Lever Edge Lane, Bolton, Greater Manchester, BL3 3HP

Inspection date

11 July 2018

Previous inspection date

10 February 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 staff team and senior leaders work extremely closely to create a shared vision of the nursery. They have the highest of aspirations and there is continual drive for improvement through reflective and evaluative practice.
- Children's love of learning and exploration is significantly enhanced because all staff have excellent teaching skills. They are extremely knowledgeable and experienced in supporting children's learning. All children make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Staff support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, and children who speak English as an additional language extremely well. They work closely with a wide range of other professionals and are passionate about supporting each child to achieve their individual potential.
- All staff are inspiring role models who have high expectations for children. Children have formed superb attachments with staff and are extremely happy and settled. They demonstrate very good listening and attention skills, and their behaviour is excellent.
- Partnerships with parents are embedded in practice. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning and assessment as there is an excellent exchange of information.
- Staff give high regard to creating a quality environment with interesting activities. This helps to highly motivate children and successfully engage them in play and learning.

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 excellent learning opportunities to present even further challenge for children.

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, staff, parents, the manager of the setting and senior leaders from the on-site school during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and senior leadership team. She looked at documentation, such as children's development records, processes of assessment, a sample of policies and procedures, training records and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and read feedback and comments to take account of their views.

Inspector

Elisia Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate an excellent knowledge of safeguarding practice. The staff team work exceptionally well with senior leaders to constantly refresh their knowledge and complete targeted professional development. The manager is extremely proactive in the nursery and offers constant mentoring and feedback to staff. Staff are supported through comprehensive inductions, regular staff meetings and supervision meetings. Training is directly linked to the needs of children. For example, staff have recently attended training on supporting the needs of two-year-old children. This has made them reflect on the environment and how accessible resources are. Staff liaise closely with other professionals. For example, they attend network and moderation meetings. Processes for assessment and data collection are extremely comprehensive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is inspiring. Staff are very adept at presenting learning opportunities to children throughout the day. For example, younger children giggle with delight as they use paint and brushes to paint their feet and legs, exploring different sensory experiences. Older children enjoy digging real vegetables from a large tub of soil and grouping them together in order of size and shape. Children's imagination is sparked by a variety of enriching activities. For example, children use foam and paints. They observe changes in texture and how colours change by mixing different quantities together. Staff are excellent at facilitating children's language. They use a lot of repetition and ask questions to support children's thinking skills and communication. Staff constantly assess children's development and analyse how they can adapt strategies to promote learning. Staff are considering even further ways to challenge and enhance children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The nursery has a very warm and calm environment. Staff nurture children's needs exceptionally well and support children in becoming highly confident and self-assured. They understand the importance of children's emotional well-being. For example, as children leave the setting to attend nursery in the on-site school, their keyperson moves up with them to support them during their first term. Children's independence is fostered superbly well. For example, children contribute to routines by helping to tidy up and put rubbish in the bin after snack time. Children are beginning to understand personal safety. They negotiate climbing opportunities in the outdoor area and assess their own risk. Children learn about the wider world. For example, they attend stay-and-play sessions with their parents as they explore healthy eating and go on outings to a local farm.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress and are highly motivated to learn and explore the world around them. They develop a wide range of skills which will support them as they get ready for the next stage in their learning. They are confident, active learners who demonstrate high levels of independence and motivation.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467101
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	1102645
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Lever Edge Primary Academy
Registered person unique reference number	RP904333
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2014
Telephone number	01204 333677

Lever Edge Early Years Unit registered in 2013. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above and one member of staff holds a level 2 qualification. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term times only. Sessions are from 8am until 4.30pm for staff childcare and funded early education sessions operate from 8.30am until 11.30am and from midday to 3pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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