

Nook Barn Nursery

Nook Barn, Nook Lane, BLACKBURN BB2 4SN



Inspection date	9 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
		Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- The provider and manager are highly experienced and share a deep understanding of early years, which underpins the success of the nursery. They lead by example and encourage staff to be fully involved in the nursery. Staff show excellent initiative and are dedicated to providing the best for children in their care.
- Excellent key-person arrangements are in place and staff get to know children exceptionally well. They form strong emotional attachments and children quickly grow in confidence to try things for themselves.
- Children behave exceptionally well for their ages and show a strong sense of belonging. Staff are very positive role models. They guide children to make appropriate decisions and teach them how to respect one another and adults.
- Children show high levels of engagement. Staff are highly skilled in listening to children. They know how and when to intervene and extend their learning.
- Highly effective monitoring identifies where children's progress may be slow to develop. Timely strategies are put in place to help to close any gaps in learning. Managers use children's progress data to challenge staff's understanding of children's learning and to strengthen provision for them.
- Highly effective partnership working with parents, schools and other professionals leads to improvement in children's learning and development.
- Staff provide a highly stimulating environment indoors and outside with a wide range of experiences for children. Excellent systems are in place to ensure children's regular access to fresh air and this helps to promote their good health.
- Transition arrangements are first class and take into account children's needs as learners. Children experience a remarkably smooth and settled move when they change to a new group or move to school.
- Children are extremely well prepared for school. Staff know precisely what is expected of children in their next stage in learning and they work towards preparing them well. They have high expectations and provide clear guidance to aid their development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the targeted programme of professional development that maintains the excellent practice of the highly skilled staff team.

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 jointly evaluated a teaching activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lisa Bolton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Safeguarding is central to everything the nursery does. Children are listened to and they feel safe. Staff know precisely what to do if they are concerned about the welfare of a child. They meticulously follow clear procedures to minimise hazards and help to keep children safe. Staff supervise children extremely well. They are consistently vigilant and promptly tend to their needs. Staff instil children with strong values about equality and diversity. Managers rigorously monitor practice and are dedicated to ensure that it continually evolves and excellence is maintained. Rigorous staff supervision takes place and focuses precisely on staff development. The manager has identified that further enhancement of the programme of professional development will take place. Self-evaluation is concise and action plans specifically focus on improving outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is highly responsive to children's needs. Staff skilfully observe children throughout their time at the nursery. They gather information from parents and professionals to support their comprehensive assessment of children's progress. Planning is highly individualised to provide tailored support and challenge based on staff's deep knowledge of each child. Staff take into account the interests and learning styles of all children, including babies. For example, they ensure flexibility for babies to access the outdoors according to their particular preferences. Staff use excellent strategies to support children's communication and language development. They prompt children to think and ask excellent, timely questions and challenge them to solve simple problems.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff and managers have a highly comprehensive understanding of the importance of securing children's emotional well-being. Incisive, child-centred decision making helps to ensure that what is provided precisely meets children's needs. Staff devote ample time to nurture children and aid their understanding of the exceedingly clear and consistent expectations at the nursery. They are taught how to use equipment and how to access resources safely and independently. This contributes to their self-sufficiency, excellent behaviour and strong self-esteem. Superbly organised lunchtimes actively contribute to children's learning. Pre-school children are highly independent in serving their peers and think deeply to solve small real-life problems which staff present to them.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thrive at the nursery. They settle exceedingly quickly and their interest to explore new things flourishes. Children show superb confidence in their own abilities and they are immensely proud of their achievements. They are highly motivated to undertake self-care tasks when they are physically able. Children thoroughly enjoy taking on small responsibilities from a very early age. For example, babies delight in exploring brushes and sweeping up with adult support. Pre-school children are particularly adventurous and enjoy new physical challenges, like swimming. Children learn about how to keep themselves healthy and safe. For example, they use impressive self-control and physical play equipment with absolute diligence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538462
Local authority	Blackburn with Darwen
Inspection number	10077223
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Nook Barn Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP538461
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01254 207676

Nook Barn Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of which, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round apart from bank holidays and Christmas holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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