

Simon House Nursery And Pre-School

896 Ashton Road, Oldham, Lancashire OL8 3HT



Inspection date	4 January 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

- Leadership and management are good. The provider and manager are qualified teachers who adopt a traditional approach to teaching. Their passion to ensure all children are 'school ready' is shared by the highly skilled and dedicated staff team.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff use 'in-the-moment' planning, which takes account of children's individual learning needs and interests. As a result, children remain engaged and are eager to learn.
- The activities provided help children to develop skills in a wide range of areas. For example, staff seize every opportunity to help babies and toddlers develop their communication and language skills. Pre-school children are proficient at writing their names, which supports their literacy skills. However, opportunities for children to develop their mathematical awareness are not extensive enough.
- Early years pupil funding has been used well to support disadvantaged children. Funding has been used to employ a qualified teacher and a sports coach. These investments help children to make good progress in all areas of their learning. Most notably, children are developing confidence and enjoy being active.
- Children's well-being is fully assured. Babies are settled to sleep with comforters and all children wear appropriate clothing during outdoor play. For example, when the weather is cold, children are wrapped up warm in their coats, hats and gloves.
- Staff do not provide children with enough opportunities to learn about healthy food choices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- widen opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills
- provide children with more opportunities to learn about healthy food choices to further enhance their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider and manager.
- The inspector took account of parents' views of the nursery.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including children's development records and parental consent forms.

Inspector

Tricia Graham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers implement effective systems to continually improve the quality of teaching. The manager works alongside staff and models best practice. She also sets ambitious targets to help staff to develop their teaching skills. For example, several staff work closely with the local authority to support children's early literacy. They have shared their knowledge with colleagues and as a team they have worked hard to promote early reading and writing skills, which has accelerated children's progress. All staff are qualified, and most are working towards higher qualifications. As a result, children benefit from the continued professional development of staff. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's well-being. Staff record information factually and report any concerns promptly. Children's safety is further assured because staff closely monitor children's attendance and follow up any absences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are deployed well and use good strategies to keep children engaged. Staff observe children closely and plan activities that build on their interests. This approach works particularly well for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff also encourage children to explore their own ideas, which further enhances their learning. For example, children used large industrial tubes and reels to create a seesaw, which generated lots of excitement. This activity also helped children persevere with difficult tasks, such as learning to balance. Staff make regular assessments of what children know and can do. These assessments are checked and moderated by managers. However, moderation has not identified minor gaps in children's mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from lots of activities that promote their physical well-being. Babies take part in baby ballet and older children enjoy regular swimming lessons. Children are well behaved and they have a clear awareness of how to keep safe. Staff work in partnership with parents to help children and toddlers to understand stranger danger. Older children know to listen to adults and hold the bannister as they walk down the stairs.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress, regardless of their starting points. Most notably is the progress children make in literacy. The nursery is rich in print, which helps children to understand that print carries meaning. Children read stories throughout the day. They hold books correctly, turn the pages independently and show a genuine passion for reading. Disadvantaged children make good progress and any gaps in learning are narrowing quickly due to the effective support of staff who work in partnership with parents and outside agencies. Overall, children are fully prepared for their next steps in learning, including their transitions on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY561578
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	10091303
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Burke, Victoria Jane
Registered person unique reference number	RP910556
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07580082015

Simon House Nursery And Pre-School registered in 2018 and is managed by a private individual. It is located in Oldham, Lancashire. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, including the provider. Of these, two have qualified teacher status and nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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