

Pathways, Woodland Trails Day Nursery

Marlene Croft, Birmingham, West Midlands B37 7JT



Inspection date	14 January 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	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

This provision is outstanding

- Leaders and managers are passionate and have a shared vision for the setting which inspires staff to be ambitious.
- Effective systems for support are in place for staff to ensure consistent high-quality teaching across the setting which is tailored to the individual learning needs of the children.
- The child-centred approach places a strong emphasis on the high quality of care that each child receives, which promotes high levels of emotional well-being.
- Staff work with parents extremely effectively, which helps their children to settle in well. Parents are provided with clear information about how they can support their children's learning at home.
- Staff are reflective practitioners who ensure they provide high-quality learning experiences that promote learning for all children in the indoor and outdoor environments, which are spacious and safe.
- Staff use a wide range of highly effective strategies to support children's very positive behaviour, including distraction, discussion and highly effective praise. Consequently, children behave well.
- Children enjoy attending and learning in the setting. As a result, they make significant progress from their starting points.
- Staff are skilled in their approach to learning and have very high expectations for what children can achieve from their starting points on entry.
- Children demonstrate what they have learned as they are confident to talk about what they know.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue the already high-quality work with parents to increase the attendance of all children, in order to further enhance their learning attainment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practice and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed the childcare premises and held discussions with the manager, senior managers, director and staff.
- The inspector looked at relevant records, documents and policies.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff team.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and children and took account of their views.

Inspector

Suzanne Taylor

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders and managers are passionate and inspirational. They share a clear vision of high expectation with staff, who are highly reflective and are empowered to contribute equally to the evaluation of the setting in order to drive continual improvement. Strong and consistent performance management systems are in place which help staff to develop high levels of learning and care, resulting in a positive impact on the children. Managers coach and mentor staff, who carefully plan the spacious environment to stimulate and challenge the children. Children confidently select the activities they wish to take part in. As a result, they show very high levels of involvement in activities. Safeguarding is effective as staff are well trained and have a breadth of understanding of the signs and symptoms and the reporting procedures. Procedures for checking children's attendance are implemented rigorously, and this helps to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are well qualified and skilled. Assessment is used effectively to plan a programme of activities which incorporates the children's interests and learning needs. Children gather natural materials from the rich outdoor environment to use their imaginations and create natural sculptures. Staff ask questions skilfully to extend learning further as children handle and think about the different materials. Accurate assessments show high levels of progress and also help to identify gaps in learning. Staff work quickly to reduce these gaps and as a result, children make significant progress in their communication and language and physical skills from their starting points. Staff continually observe and seek opportunities to reinforce learning, offering acknowledgement and praise, which children respond well to.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The key-person system is very effective as children form secure and nurturing bonds with their key person, helping them to settle in well. Positive relationships are formed with their families and as a result, children are confident. They proudly show what they know and can do as they say that milk makes their bones strong. Children show increasing levels of skill as they are supported to peel and chop fruit in preparation for snacks. Younger children enjoy physical activity with coloured ribbons before settling down to join in with songs and stories. Children behave exceptionally well in the setting as staff use a calm, positive and individualised approach to help children to understand and manage their own behaviour. Parents speak very highly of staff and managers and talk about the strong support they receive and the progress their children are making.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children who attend feel secure and well cared for. They enjoy learning in the rich and stimulating environment which has a calm and warm atmosphere. Children have space to explore and show high levels of involvement as staff take time to support and extend learning beyond what they already know. The excellent child-centred approach means that across the whole range of children attending, significant progress is made in developing confidence and independence skills, in preparation for moving on to their next phase of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY541487
Local authority	Solihull
Inspection number	10080029
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Pathways Nurseries and Childcare Centres Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905164
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07788 920478

Pathways, Woodland Trails Day Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery operates from 7.15am to 6.15pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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