

The Sheffield Children's Centre

101 Shoreham Street, SHEFFIELD S1 4SR



Inspection date

15 February 2019

Previous inspection date

1 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The manager and her team have an extremely clear vision for the future development of the centre. They thoroughly consider all aspects of the teaching and care the exceptionally well-qualified staff provide to ensure children make excellent progress. Staff make very good use of research to support further improvement.
- The passionate and highly enthusiastic staff create a warm, stimulating and welcoming environment to support children's learning. Children rapidly grow in confidence and self-awareness. They are curious and persistent learners.
- Staff are excellent role models. Children behave very well and learn to be tolerant and understanding towards others. They successfully learn to take their turn and pay attention to others. The staff provide very effective support to children who find it difficult to manage their emotions.
- Staff provide highly imaginative and exciting resources and activities which motivate and engage all groups of children. Every available space is used to provide a wide range of learning experiences. For example, staff make extremely good use of enticing dens and role-play areas to draw children in to reading, writing and investigative activities.
- Children make excellent progress from their individual starting points. Staff make very good use of additional funding to narrow any differences in children's achievement and help them all to fulfil their potential. They make very good use of links with schools and other early years providers to promote consistent achievement.

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 already very good strategies in place to promote children's well-being and positive mental health.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed joint observations with senior staff.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the children's centre.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The manager and her team have extremely high expectations for everyone involved in the children's centre to perform well. There are excellent systems to gather the views of parents and involve them in supporting and improving provision. Procedures to develop the performance of staff are very effective. For example, all staff are fully supported to build consistently on their already very good early years qualifications, at graduate level or higher. The management have further identified opportunities to further extend the development of children's and families well-being and mental health. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a very thorough knowledge of how to keep children safe and secure. They take full advantage of training opportunities to deepen and develop their skills in child protection. There are rigorous procedures to ensure that children play in bright, clean and risk-free areas indoors and out. The designated safeguarding leads support staff by providing frequent quizzes and other development activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff make excellent use of detailed information from parents to identify their starting points and provide ongoing support. Activities are carefully matched to children's needs and interests. For example, staff use children's love of the natural world to develop their observation and problem-solving skills when they track the insects in the different areas of the garden with magnifying glasses and match them to the picture charts. Staff consistently promote high levels of communication skills through, for example, modelling new words and phrases and asking very thoughtful open-ended questions. Resources are extremely stimulating and imaginative. For example, babies have many different shimmering fabrics, malleable materials, light sources and mirrors to explore and build their tactile and sensory awareness. Staff fully encourage children's independence and decision making in their indoor and outdoor play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop a strong sense of fairness and tolerance. They learn about the traditions of the many nationalities represented within the school community. Children are helped to be gentle and thoughtful to each other and, for example, learn about the needs of animals on regular farm visits. Children follow instructions very well and learn to stay safe in different situations. For example, they learn about road safety and stranger danger through role play, story activities and regular visits from the police and other emergency services. Children's awareness of healthy living is fully encouraged. The children grow fruit and vegetables in the garden and allotments and often help to plan the culturally diverse and well-planned menus. Children participate in many physical activities, such as international dance and 'Fit Kids' sessions.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared for starting the next stage in their learning, including starting school. Children learn to speak clearly and share their ideas. For example, the shop keeper in the role-play ice-cream café asks children what flavours they want and how much the price will be. They work out how much to pay for more ice creams, showing good counting and early computation skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300808
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10072758
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 - 15
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Sheffield Children's Centre Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904852
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2016
Telephone number	0114 279 8236

The Sheffield Children's Centre registered in 1994. The centre employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 or higher, including early years professional status. The centre opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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