

First Steps Day Nursery

Caduceus House, Upper Warrengate, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 4JZ



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| Inspection date | 27 February 2019 |
| Previous inspection date | 27 May 2015 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| 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

- Managers constantly strive to continually improve the nursery. They are ambitious and know their strengths and areas that need further development. Self-evaluation is accurate.
- Staff promote equality and diversity at every opportunity. Children have lots of opportunities to find out about other cultures and people from different backgrounds.
- The learning environment is bright and stimulating and motivates children to learn. Staff work hard to constantly improve and enhance the resources and activities that are on offer to children.
- The key-person system is effective. Staff respond sensitively to the needs of the children. Children form strong emotional attachments with staff.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are well informed about their child's learning, for example through parent evenings and daily conversations.
- Children listen to adults carefully and maintain attention for prolonged periods of time during activities led by adults.
- Children achieve consistently good rates of progress and are well prepared for starting school.
- Staff consistently develop children's mathematical learning through all activities. Children are excited to join in with counting at every opportunity.
- Children do not always have opportunities to fully develop their interests as their play is sometimes interrupted by routines led by adults.
- Staff do not consistently use skilful questioning and modelling of language to extend children's vocabulary and build on current knowledge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise the opportunities for children to engage in meaningful play and fully explore their interests
- support staff to develop their questioning skills, to consistently support children's acquisition of language and vocabulary.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector jointly evaluated an activity with the managers of the nursery.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of nursery staff.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.

Inspector

Ginny Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers develop a culture of vigilance and all staff know what to do if they are worried about a child. They implement robust recruitment procedures and all staff are fully vetted before they begin working with children. Managers monitor the curriculum effectively and quickly identify any gaps in children's learning. They use the results of monitoring and observations of staff practice to develop a programme of professional development for staff. This is raising the quality of teaching. Partnerships with external agencies are effective. Managers implement programmes to support children that need extra help and take advice from external professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular and precise assessments of children's learning. They accurately identify what children need to learn next to gain new skills. Overall, children are interested and motivated to learn as they explore the environment. They begin to develop early mathematical skills and an awareness of size and shape as they build structures with large shapes outdoors. Children laugh with excitement as they roll cars down a tube and begin to recognise numbers on a grid when the car stops on a number. Children learn about diversity in ways that are meaningful to them, such as when they sing the 'hello song' in a range of languages, as well as English. This reflects the range of backgrounds that the children come from. Children gain skills in literacy as they listen to stories being read by staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident to talk to visitors and they settle into the setting with ease, due to the support of staff. Parents comment very positively about the care that their children receive. Babies delight as they experience the thrill of sliding down a slide with the support of staff. They exclaim and kick their legs to express themselves. Children behave well and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. They show care and concern for living things. For example, they find a home for worms that they have found in the garden. Children learn about staying safe on the internet through close support and guidance from staff. They use games on the computer that teach them about some of the potential dangers of the internet, such as pop-ups. Staff develop children's emotional well-being and use positive praise to recognise children's achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Differences between groups of children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are diminishing. Children demonstrate a positive attitude towards their learning. They express their enjoyment of activities through laughter and singing. They gather the skills they need for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY216311 |
| Local authority | Wakefield |
| Inspection number | 10071360 |
| 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 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 68 |
| Number of children on roll | 80 |
| Name of registered person | Wakefield and District Health and Community Support Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP520224 |
| Date of previous inspection | 27 May 2015 |
| Telephone number | 01924 298290 |

First Steps Day Nursery was registered in 1994. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. One member of staff holds a level 6 qualification. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm, all year round. The nursery can open at 7am by special arrangement. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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