

The Old Rectory Kindergarten Limited

The Old Rectory Kindergarten, 204 Waterloo Road, STOKE-ON-TRENT
ST6 3HQ



Inspection date	3 June 2019
Previous inspection date	16 May 2016

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

- The manager is committed to maintaining continuous improvement within the nursery. She ensures staff have up-to-date information to enhance their knowledge and understanding, to meet children's needs effectively. The manager consults with staff, parents and children to devise ways to further improve the provision.
- Staff regularly observe and monitor children's progress. They understand how to support children's learning and plan stimulating activities. Children make good progress at the nursery.
- Staff facilitate children's independence and curiosity very well. They have created an interesting and well-organised learning environment where all children are able to experiment and explore, indoors and outdoors.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Successful strategies enable parents to be involved in their children's learning journey through the nursery. Feedback from parents is positive and they are certain about the good progress their children are making.
- Staff appropriately identify children who need extra support. Additional funding that the nursery receives is spent carefully to provide children with a range of opportunities.
- In group activities, staff do not always consider the abilities of the children present so that all children benefit from the best teaching and learning opportunities.
- Sometimes, staff do not ensure that quieter children are fully involved and engaged in activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation and planning of group activities for children of mixed abilities to increase children's focus and attention
- use more effective ways to encourage quieter children to become fully engaged in the activities provided.

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

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding and wider child protection issues. They understand the process that they need to follow if they are concerned about children's welfare. There are robust safe recruitment and induction procedures in place. The manager monitors staff performance by observing staff practice and holding individual supervisory meetings. Staff training is continuous, and any new knowledge is shared for the benefit of the children. For example, recent mathematics training helps all staff to focus on this area of learning. Good links with other professionals and local schools help to build the collaborative approach to support children's individual needs. The manager monitors the progress of all children. This supports her to identify and address any gaps in children's learning that may emerge.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified staff use children's natural exploratory impulse and sense of curiosity to help them make good progress. For example, children investigate the properties of sand, water, pasta and foam. Children make marks and stretch and squeeze play dough using their fingers. This contributes to the good development of their small-muscle control and coordination. Mathematical language is part of a range of play experiences. For instance, staff encourage children to think about weight, size and volume as they use the large balance scales. Assessment is accurate and children's interests and identified next steps in learning are taken into account when planning activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are settled and happy at this friendly nursery. They enter the nursery confidently and eagerly begin to engage in their self-chosen play. Behaviour is good and staff interact positively with children, for example, by praising them for their achievements. Children learn to share and take turns. They have a good understanding of healthy eating and enjoy daily exercise outside where they develop a wide range of physical skills. Children of all ages are eager to do things for themselves and staff respect this.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their individual starting points. This includes children who speak English as an additional language and those who require additional support. Children develop the skills they need for their future learning, including starting school. They learn to count accurately and order objects by size and shape. They practise recognising letters and listening to the sounds they represent, to develop their literacy skills. Toddlers join in with singing familiar songs confidently. Children learn about equality and diversity, for example, by finding out about special festivals and tasting food from other cultures. Children are sociable and become increasingly independent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432561
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10066127
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	65
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	The Old Rectory Kindergarten Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903959
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2016
Telephone number	01782824971

The Old Rectory Kindergarten Limited registered in 2011. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, and 13 hold qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks each year, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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