

Building Blocks Child Care

32 Cottam Avenue, Preston PR2 3XE



Inspection date	19 July 2019
Previous inspection date	31 March 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 and newly appointed leadership team of experienced and well-qualified staff know the setting well. Roles and responsibilities are clear, allowing the staff to carry out the day-to-day running confidently. They are aware of the setting's strengths and plan well to make future improvements.
- Teaching is consistently strong in all age groups. Staff assess children accurately and plan appropriate next steps. They consider children's interests and purposefully choose resources and activities to accommodate their individual needs. For example, a child talks about buses and then has the opportunity to make a junk model bus.
- Both the indoor and outdoor environments are well organised and stimulating. High-quality resources are provided throughout and different areas are used to enhance learning experiences. For example, there is a wellness garden which has calming sounds and a water feature. Staff encourage children to use this area to reflect and relax.
- All children make good progress from their starting points. Practitioners work well with other agencies to ensure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities reach their best possible outcomes.
- Children's understanding of the world is promoted. However, visits into the local community would further develop these experiences.
- Opportunities to strengthen links with different schools and share more comprehensive information to help transition are sometimes missed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich children's learning about the wider world, for instance by giving them experiences in their local community
- strengthen relationships with local schools to ensure successful transitions for all pre-school children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this had on the children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and considered their views.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and suitability checks.
- The inspector went on a tour of the setting with the manager.

Inspector

Vicky Armstrong

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The experienced staff have good knowledge of signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to follow if they have a concern about a child. Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff communicate with parents in a variety of ways, including through social media. This communication helps to support children's good outcomes. Staff's positive working relationships contribute to a happy environment. They set a good example for children to model how to behave towards each other. Regular observations of staff are used to contribute to the focus of further training for each staff member. Additional funding is spent thoughtfully according to children's needs. For example, additional sessions are provided to promote physical development and speech and language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is consistently strong in each age group. Staff respond intuitively to children. They skilfully question and give children time to process information before they answer. Staff model and reinforce language appropriately. For example, in the baby room staff identify colours and point to them, repeating the word as they do so. Counting is used throughout the session and numbers are displayed in both the indoor and outdoor environment. A variety of activities are provided to promote active learning. For example, children help to plant vegetables, such as peas, which they then enjoy for snack. Staff talk to children about what the vegetables need to help them grow.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the setting. They behave well and follow the established and well-organised daily routines. The key-person system is strong and, consequently, children and parents have good relationships with their key person. They work together and use a consistent approach to promote good outcomes for children. For example, a key person works closely with parents on potty training. Children are confident within the setting and talk about what they like to do. For example, during carpet time, children tell staff what they are going to do during the session. Children benefit from healthy meals and staff talk about the importance of healthy eating and how this contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Babies are encouraged to be independent during mealtimes. Staff allow them to explore food and attempt to use a spoon to feed themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next stage of learning. They enjoy group activities and develop essential social skills, such as listening to others and being kind. Self-help skills are encouraged throughout the daily routines. For example, children use self-service at lunchtime and tidy their plates away when they are finished.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477240
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10075934
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	49
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Building Blocks Child Care (Preston) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP533298
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2016
Telephone number	07715875599

Building Blocks Child Care registered in 2014. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for two weeks and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and receives the early years pupil premium.

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