

Inspection of Burnett Nursery School

Burnett Nursery, Thewlis Street, Warrington WA5 1AJ

Inspection date: 10 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children receive good levels of attention in this family friendly and inclusive nursery. Staff want all children to do well in their learning. They plan activities based around topics, such as space. Children sing songs using different voices, with the robot voice being a firm favourite. They make rockets using recycled materials and learn how to use the scissors safely. These experiences help children to develop their language, creativity and fine-motor skills.

Children are happy, safe and motivated in their play. They enjoy weekly dance sessions, which help to build children's confidence and coordination skills. Children behave well and learn to be polite, independent and responsible. They wear the 'monitor badge' and help with tasks, such as setting the table. Even the youngest children learn how to safely drink their milk from a glass.

The owner has high expectations. She has worked with staff to evaluate and improve many aspects of practice. Some new and experienced staff members have been appointed to boost the team. Leaders know they can do even more to develop further. At times, teaching is not always maintained at the highest level and some areas of the building need attention.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Parents report that children are excited to attend. They speak positively about the close bonds that children develop with staff. This is evident from children's smiles when they play with staff and offer them spontaneous hugs.
- Staff follow consistent and hygienic care routines to promote children's good health and well-being. They make sure children have regular opportunities to play actively in the garden. All meals are freshly prepared and nutritious.
- Staff build strong relationships with parents. They involve them in children's learning in a variety of ways. For example, the 'homework folders' help parents to support children's learning at home. Parents report that children have really come on in their counting and language skills.
- Teaching continues to improve over time. Staff track children's development and clearly identify their next steps in learning. The daily routine gives children a broad range of experiences across the curriculum. However, some adult-led activities are not consistently well planned. This is because staff do not focus sharply on children's individual abilities and what they need to learn to help them achieve more.
- Reading areas have been enhanced to further support children's love of books. New story bags that contain props help to make stories more enjoyable and interactive, while encouraging children's language skills.
- Staff use their knowledge from courses to benefit children's learning. For

example, following training, staff increased opportunities for children to be active and burn off some energy before engaging in small-group work. This is helping children to concentrate for longer periods of time.

- Young children enjoy making choices and singing songs when they engage in lively activities, such as 'what is in the bag?' Older children gain some understanding of letters and sounds, which contributes to their early literacy skills. Children rest and listen to sounds of the rainforest after outdoor play. This helps them to get ready to engage in activities.
- Staff reinforce positive behaviour well. They acknowledge children's good ideas and praise them for using 'beautiful' manners. Staff talk about how children feel and what makes them happy. This helps children to understand different emotions.
- Leaders give staff time to update children's learning records during quieter periods. They have increased the frequency of supervision to give staff more individual support. They are beginning to use some new systems to monitor staff's performance, although these are not yet fully embedded.
- The premises are secure and staff supervise children closely to keep them safe. However, the building is old and some areas are starting to show signs of disrepair, such as a leak in the bathroom. Procedures for checking that any planned maintenance is carried out quickly are not rigorous enough.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff understand the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. They know how to report any concerns about a child or a member of staff. Their knowledge is refreshed by leaders, for instance, during training and discussions at team meetings. Leaders ensure newly appointed staff who are in the process of being vetted are never left unsupervised with children. This policy was stringently observed during the inspection. This helps to safeguard children until necessary checks on staff are fully complete.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- monitor teaching with rigour and help staff expand their skills further, particularly during adult-led activities, so that each child makes the best possible progress
- strengthen procedures for making sure the building is maintained to a high standard and check any planned works are carried out in a timely manner.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY543765
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10092863
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	Higginson, Margaret Olive
Registered person unique reference number	RP543764
Telephone number	01925 231213
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2019

Information about this early years setting

Burnett Nursery School registered in 2017. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, with five qualified at level 3 and one at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jan Linsdell

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a learning walk with the manager to understand how the nursery and the curriculum is organised.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A meeting was held between the inspector, the manager and the owner.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including evidence of staff's suitability, the record of complaints and the record of visits from the local authority adviser.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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