

Inspection of Elizabeth Saunders Nursery

Saunders Lane, Hutton, PRESTON PR4 5SA

Inspection date:

27 November 2019

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish at the nursery. They are extremely happy and show they feel secure and content. There is a strong focus on fostering children's natural curiosity, with an abundance of opportunities for them to explore, investigate and discover. As a result, children are highly motivated and eager to join in. Children's behaviour is impeccable. They play harmoniously and show excellent consideration for their peers. For example, children help one another to take off their coats and regularly invite others to join in with their play. Children learn to recognise their feelings. Staff make excellent use of visual aids of faces depicting different emotions. This is highly effective in helping children to identify and understand their feelings, and helps them in their ability to manage their own behaviour.

Intentions for children's learning are firmly understood by all staff and exceptionally well embedded across the whole nursery. Every element of teaching, including activities and experiences, interactions from staff and details of the learning environment, are meticulously well planned and entirely informed. Staff use their comprehensive knowledge of the children and what they need to learn next to determine what and how to teach. All children make excellent progress and some children excel far beyond expectations.

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

- Staff teach children excellent early literacy skills, using their expertise of how children learn. For example, staff repeat the 'story of the week' each day. The repetition embeds new vocabulary effectively and builds on children's knowledge and recall of the characters and story. Children use excellent imaginative skills as they go on to act out their favourite parts of the story as part of their freely chosen play.
- Staff are superb play companions. They enthusiastically join in with jumping in muddy puddles with children. They skilfully enhance children's learning as they begin to sing and dance, encouraging different movements. Children squeal with delight as they splash and sing along with staff. Staff working with babies create a shower of shaving foam as they clap and pat the foam, greatly encouraging babies' own explorations.
- Staff provide outstanding teaching. They seize every opportunity to embed and extend children's learning. For example, children pretend to be on a ship made from a crate. Staff ask children what they can see in the 'ocean' and challenge them to estimate how many fish there might be. Staff's skilful questioning greatly promotes children's mathematical and critical-thinking skills. They go on to engage in excellent conversation about sea creatures, which further promotes their communication skills and understanding of the world.
- Children enjoy excellent relationships with their key person and staff they

regularly see. This impacts significantly on children's confidence and emotional well-being. Staff are calm, patient and attentive to children's needs. They prioritise children's needs exceptionally well. For example, staff remain alert to children's needs when speaking to visitors or other members of staff.

- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. Staff provide an abundance of opportunities for parents to be involved in their children's learning. For example, staff put on workshops for parents on various subjects, such as 'getting ready for school'. Staff gather information and suggestions from local school teachers to provide parents with informed and valuable support.
- The leadership team, which is made up of the area manager, nursery manager and senior staff, is highly skilled, driven and passionate. There is a strong focus on nurturing the skills of apprentice staff and creating a team of highly skilled and dedicated practitioners. Leaders ensure the well-being of staff and routinely monitor workloads as part of systems of supervision.
- The long-standing staff team is forward thinking and proactive. The members of the staff team continually build on their knowledge through excellent opportunities for professional development and their own early years research. This led to a more in-depth understanding of children's muscle development and staff's precise support for children's fine motor skills, following staff's own research on support for children's pencil grip.
- Children are safe and secure in the nursery due to staff's vigilance and close supervision. Accidents are managed in line with robust policies and procedures, and ratios are maintained at all times.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and their individual roles in protecting children from harm. They receive a rigorous safeguarding training programme. This is staggered throughout the year so that at any one time at least one member of staff has received the most up-to-date training. Staff immediately share new information with the whole team, which creates a culture of vigilance across the nursery. The managers are extremely well organised and ensure policies, records and documents that help to safeguard children are regularly updated in line with current legislation.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455360
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10109839
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 to 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Walmsley, Ann Jeanette
Registered person unique reference number	RP513661
Telephone number	01772619064
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2013

Information about this early years setting

Elizabeth Saunders Nursery registered in 2012 and is located in New Longton, Preston. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, nine of whom hold relevant qualifications. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Katie Sparrow

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the area manager, manager and member of the leadership team, and held discussions about the early years provision and meeting children's needs.
- A joint observation was carried out and the inspector took account of the manager's evaluations.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including safeguarding policies and evidence of suitability checks on staff.
- A meeting was held between the inspector, the area manager and nursery manager to discuss leadership and management arrangements.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.

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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