

Inspection of Merry-Go-Round @ Riverside

RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL, Belmont Avenue, Hereford HR2 7JF

Inspection date: 16 January 2020

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

The layout of the environment is excellent and the materials and resources are thoughtfully added to promote children's creativity, problem solving and exploration. Staff skillfully observe children and provide experiences that are suited to their interests and to help challenge their learning to the highest level. For example, children are inspired by the open-ended resources as they use various vegetables, guttering and balancing scales to consider concepts such as weight, size and speed. Staff have a very precise and clear learning intention for activities and place a top priority on introducing new vocabulary, ideas and concepts during their interactions. The various vegetables added to the activities fascinate children. For example, children independently explore the vegetables which are frozen in the ice. Others consider how potatoes covered in paint create different splatter patterns as they are dropped from various heights. Staff constantly help children experiment and question what they see and interact with. For example, children delight in adding water and cornflour on a large scale on the floor to make their paste, and make marks using a variety of tools and objects. Children show equal levels of enthusiasm during small-group work and easily recognise their names, sing and show excellent listening and attention skills. Staff provide exceptional care for all children and they feel safe and are extremely independent in their environment.

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

- The whole staff team provides high-quality education and care to all children and share the leadership team's vision in the pursuit of excellence. A rich curriculum is delivered exceptionally well by staff which is centred on promoting children's creativity, exploration and discovery. Staff talk about the Reggio Emilia approach.
- The outstanding outcomes are clearly attributed to the excellent use of the highly stimulating environment, resources and experiences on offer. Staff deployment is excellent and they skilfully engage all children in their play and learning. The mathematics and literacy curriculum is delivered extremely creatively and this inspires all children to learn.
- The highly motivated leadership team works with staff and rigorously monitors quality, and offers an astute and targeted programme of professional development. Promoting staff's emotional well-being and fostering their enthusiasm are given high priority and, as a result, staff are extremely dedicated and passionate about their work with children.
- Staff expertly use their observations of what children can do and like to provide highly challenging activities based on children's individual learning styles to motivate them. They carefully track all children's progress, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as

an additional language, to ensure they all make the very best possible progress.

- Staff know parents and the local community extremely well and make excellent use of local resources to help support families. They value each parent, and this inclusive approach results in extremely strong relationships with parents and excellent support for those families who need it most. Parents report extremely high levels of satisfaction about the care their children receive and the support and advice they receive on parenting issues.
- Promoting children's health and well-being is given the highest priority. All children, including babies, have excellent opportunities to extend and practise their physical skills indoors and outdoors. For example, staff caring for babies make excellent use of the soft-play area to provide ample physical play opportunities daily. Staff work closely with parents on any health issues, such as healthy eating, including providing healthy lunch boxes and good oral hygiene.
- Promoting children's personal, social and emotional development is at the heart of the staff's work. They offer a child-centred programme based on the principles of respect, resilience and responsibility. Consequently, children work extremely well in groups, easily negotiate and are deeply engaged in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow to safeguard children. They work collaboratively with other agencies and professionals working with families to ensure their safety and welfare. Children's safety is given high priority at all times. For example, staff provide useful information to parents about the risks of the internet and work with parents and children to help reduce screen time at home and focus on the benefits of reading books together instead. Staff are highly skilled in providing an environment which is exciting and offers controlled risks. They are extremely vigilant about children's safety and supervise them well to keep them safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468858
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	10116334
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 5
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Merry-Go-Round Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531989
Telephone number	01432352016
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2014

Information about this early years setting

Merry-Go-Round @ Riverside registered in 2013 and is situated in purpose-built premises on the same site as Riverside Primary School in South City, Hereford. The nursery is one of three settings run by Merry Go Round Day Nursery Ltd. It opens Monday to Friday all year round, except bank holidays and a week at Christmas and Easter. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery employs 13 members of staff who work directly with children. Of these, one holds early years professional status, two hold an early years qualification at level 6, one holds a qualification at level 5, eight hold a qualification at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, who is also the provider, and the deputy. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2020