

Inspection of Lilypad Day Nursery

432 Whitley Lane, Grenoside, SHEFFIELD S35 8RQ

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 manager and her staff team have consistently high expectations and support every child to reach their full potential. Children are extremely happy and busy during their time at the nursery. New children settle in and secure strong routines swiftly. They are supported by the well-established and efficient key-person and support systems. Children are engaged in the imaginative and well-planned activities that match their interests and needs extremely well. For example, they love to listen to stories about diggers and tractors as they work together to build towers with construction toys. The nursery's kind and inspiring staff value all of the children and know them well. Staff are positive role models. They establish simple, clear routines that build children's sense of belonging and feelings of security. As a result, children safely and independently benefit from all that the small, friendly setting has to offer. Children have excellent social skills and are very well behaved. They are polite and thoughtful in their interactions with peers and staff. Children leave the nursery brimming with the self-awareness, curiosity and enthusiasm needed to support a smooth start to the next stage of their education.

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

- Parents hold the nursery in very high regard. They appreciate the warm and caring attitudes of the staff. They value the excellent sharing of information, guidance and resources for learning at home. Parents comment on how amazed they are at what their children know, such as sign language or how to make Hindu Diwali lamps.
- The experienced manager is a proactive leader. She has a very clear vision for the purpose and continued direction of the nursery. Staff are an exceptionally close team who constantly look for ways to develop. There are well-established procedures for developing all aspects of provision, which are constantly reviewed and enhanced. For instance, staff work together to observe each other's teaching and check the accuracy of their assessments of children's achievement.
- Children learn in a bright, well-organised and stimulating environment. Activities are skilfully planned to meet the needs of children at different stages and focus on their identified next steps for learning. For example, children develop their mathematical and problem-solving skills highly successfully. They solve increasingly complex jigsaw puzzles and investigate patterns in the natural world. Children easily access magnifying glasses, torches, clipboards and other resources to help them in their discoveries.
- Procedures to observe and assess children's learning are very clear and effective. Staff have well-defined roles as children's key persons. They liaise closely with other professionals, such as medical staff or educational psychologists, to identify and support children's specific needs. Staff give carefully considered information about children's needs and achievements to the

schools or other settings children move to. Teachers at several schools feed back how useful they find these arrangements in helping children make a strong start to further learning.

- Children develop their speaking, early reading and writing skills extremely well. They listen to stories during the day, which are carefully tailored to their age and ability. Staff weave stories into many of the activities they plan. Children recognise letters in their own names from a very early stage. They use name cards to register at the start of the day and for many other activities.
- Staff's interactions with children are a constant strength of the provision. Staff speak clearly and purposefully and listen closely to all children. They adjust their questions to the children's needs and interests very effectively.
- Staff strongly promote children's awareness of diversity and differences through many activities. For instance, children love music sessions when they accompany themselves on percussion instruments from several different cultures. They sing with spirit and a very good knowledge of the words and actions.
- Children's personal development is rigorously developed. Children are very physically active as they dance to lively music. They ride their balance bikes or other vehicles around the outdoor areas. They learn how to stay safe on the road on their many country walks or from visits from the police and other emergency services.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager ensures that all staff are fully aware of up-to-date child protection procedures. Staff access regular advanced training and receive frequent feedback on any changes to local safeguarding procedures. They have a strong understanding of potential wider concerns, such as the influence of extremist views. Staff know how to report any concerns they may have and follow up on these if necessary. They are thorough in making sure that children play in a clean, safe and secure environment. Children are very good at keeping their play areas tidy and free from hazards.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY348409
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10131591
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Taylor, Caroline
Registered person unique reference number	RP513924
Telephone number	01142 452642
Date of previous inspection	20 July 2015

Information about this early years setting

Lilypad Day Nursery registered in 2007. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for two weeks in August and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Andrew Clark

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk of the nursery. They discussed the curriculum, resources and activities provided for the children.
- A joint observation of an activity was completed by the inspector and the manager. They discussed the quality of the staff's interactions and the impact on children's engagement and participation.
- Documentation was viewed by the inspector, including a sample of policies and procedures and staff's suitability checks.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

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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