

Inspection of Thurcroft Early Years

Katherine Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham, Yorkshire S66 9HF

Inspection date: 10 September 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the nursery. Babies make a strong start to their nursery life. They benefit from the warm relationships that staff firmly establish with them and their families. Babies rapidly build their confidence as staff gently guide them to try challenging experiences. For example, staff encourage babies beginning to stand and walk to pull themselves up onto the different levels of furniture and other surfaces created for them. Babies take pride in their physical achievements. Older children are helped to recognise their different emotions, and to accept and increasingly manage them. This contributes to children's very good behaviour and well-being.

Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, develop a love of books, rhymes and songs. They enjoy many opportunities to sit with a member of staff and share a favourite book or to tell stories to other children. Children make good progress from their individual starting points in all aspects of their learning. They are inquisitive, eager to learn and well prepared for their future learning.

Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, feel safe and well cared for. They learn to take good care of themselves. For example, children routinely tidy up after themselves when they finish an activity and wash their hands thoroughly and regularly.

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

- The manager and her deputy provide strong leadership and are ambitious to continually develop their provision. They strongly support staff to build on their qualifications and training, including to degree level and higher. Staff constantly aim to improve opportunities for the children in their care. The manager and staff rigorously review their planning, assessment and organisation to ensure that all children achieve their full potential.
- Staff promote children's early communication skills well, overall. They carefully plan for the development of children's speech. For example, staff encourage babies to listen to the sounds around them, such as the noise that toy cars make on different surfaces. Staff introduce new words and phrases to children as they play to extend their vocabulary and enrich their language. Most children learn to speak confidently and purposefully. However, staff do not consistently help children to deepen their understanding and use the new vocabulary. For example, staff sometimes give too little time for children to answer questions involving fresh vocabulary, before giving the answer themselves.
- Children who speak English as an additional language progress well. Staff make good use of information from parents to support children's understanding of

English, alongside their own home language. For example, staff help children to count and name different fruits in English and Polish during their role play.

- Parents hold the nursery in high regard. They feel that the manager and her staff know their children very well and value the support offered them. They appreciate the positive steps staff take to minimise the impact of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic on children's learning and to keep everyone safe. In particular, parents welcome the regular and detailed information that they receive about their children's learning and the guidance to further support their children's progress.
- Staff strongly promote children's well-being and healthy living. The nursery cook prepares well-planned nourishing meals and snacks. Staff help children to understand the importance of eating healthily. They successfully support children's toilet training and hygiene awareness, such as washing their hands thoroughly and cleaning their teeth regularly. Children develop good coordination and physical control. For example, they patiently use tweezers to pick toy spiders through a web of string that they have helped to weave. Children learn to manage cutlery at mealtimes, skilfully and independently.
- Children are very well behaved. Staff work closely with parents to follow babies' routines and help them to play actively, and rest and sleep peacefully. Older children are supported well to keep a clean and safe environment. They learn to take care of their toys and other resources.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The safeguarding lead makes sure that staff receive the training they need to keep their knowledge up to date. She regularly sets further challenges and tests to deepen their understanding. Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures and the nursery policies. Staff are vigilant. They know the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of abuse and neglect. Staff are clear of the action to take if they have a concern about a child's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus staff development more sharply on helping children to retain and use rich and varied vocabulary further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2501327
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	10206068
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 at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Thurcroft Early Years Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2501326
Telephone number	01709530879
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Thurcroft Early Years registered in 2019. The nursery opens all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for the week between Christmas and New Year and bank holidays. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. Four members of staff hold level 6 qualifications, including the manager. There are two apprentices working towards a level 3 qualification. The nursery receives funding for early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in the evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector conducted a learning walk together to review the children's learning experiences.
- The children talked to the inspector about their activities.
- The manager and the inspector conducted a joint observation of children's activities.
- Discussions were held with senior leaders and members of staff.
- The inspector discussed the management and organisation of the nursery with the manager and the deputy manager. He reviewed relevant documents.
- The inspector held discussions to seek 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.

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