

Inspection of The Old School House Nursery

The Old School House, King Street, Sancton, York, East Riding YO43 4QP

Inspection date: 6 October 2021

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 nursery is a hive of learning, fun and activity. All children benefit from an extremely safe and stimulating environment. During national lockdowns, due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, parents appreciated the additional contact and support they received from the nursery to support children's development. Children benefited from activities they received and were able to listen to stories read by the staff. They were also able to participate in online gardening clubs. Children are completely engrossed in their learning from the moment they enter the nursery until the end of their session. Staff plan an awe-inspiring, precisely tailored curriculum and reflect children's experiences and interests all around the nursery. Children have formed wonderful friendships and secure attachments with staff. They are extremely busy and know what is expected of them. They behave exceptionally well and treat each other with kindness and respect.

All the children thrive on the rich experiences that help them to learn about the world around them. For example, children relish looking at the sticks and leaves they have found in the excellent outdoor area. They talk about the changing seasons and why leaves fall off the trees. They identify why the leaves change colour and shape. Children use their collected items to create stick people, butterflies, and wands.

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

- Staff build highly effective partnerships with parents and other providers that children also attend. Parents know what staff are working on to support their child's development. Parents receive exceptional support and guidance from staff. Parents comment that 'the nursery has played a pivotal role in developing the children into confident, independent and sociable young people'.
- Staff plan a curriculum to give children excellent opportunities to develop their speech and language skills. For example, children learn new words, such as 'rough and 'bumpy', when painting on pumpkins. Staff ask older children questions that encourage detailed replies. This helps extend their thinking and vocabulary further.
- Children are extremely well supported to develop important independence skills and learn how to keep themselves safe. Prior to lunchtime, older children are selected to be helpers and set up the tables for others. Children relish the opportunity to chop their own Yorkshire puddings and toddlers learn how to hold the knife safely.
- Children develop positive relationships and make friends easily with others who attend. They work together on chosen tasks. For example, they build intricate three-dimensional structures. They follow the instruction plans they have drawn and create a farm. They find resources within the room to add to their farm,

developing their creativity. For example, they use a fish slice to make a wind turbine and a wooden block to represent a hay bale. They stand back proudly with staff to look at their creations and they take photos to send to parents.

- Managers and room leaders undertake regular supervisions and peer-to-peer observations with staff. They deliver team training to ensure that staff feel valued and respected. The manager provides regular staff meetings and focuses on the mental health and the well-being of all staff. There is an exceptional drive to target professional development. This enhances the experiences for children and helps them to achieve their best. All staff feel extremely well supported and staff morale is exceptional.
- The manager and staff have a clear vision for the nursery. They have a highly effective self-evaluation. Parents positively share their views through the use of questionnaires and personal consultations.
- The nursery is part of a wider village community, which is at the heart of their curriculum. Managers and staff involve village residents in activities and seasonal celebrations. In addition, children deliver pictures and harvest gifts to the village residents. Children benefit from the use of resources and activities available in this welcoming community. This further enhances their knowledge and experiences of people and the community that they live in.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have excellent knowledge of their roles and responsibilities to protect children from harm and they view this as a collective responsibility. Staff show a clear understanding of how to report any concerns, to receive expert advice and guidance. There are rigorous vetting checks and recruitment procedures in place, to help ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. Children help with daily risk assessments, which are completed to help to ensure that the outdoor learning environment is free from any hazards, such as poisonous berries or nettles. Children proudly show the inspector around the 'Gruffalo Den' and remind her to be careful and watch where she walks so she does not trip over.

Setting details

Unique reference number	314743
Local authority	East Riding of Yorkshire
Inspection number	10131556
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	119
Name of registered person	Minns, Sally Louise
Registered person unique reference number	RP906324
Telephone number	01430 828 154
Date of previous inspection	15 July 2016

Information about this early years setting

The Old School House Nursery was registered in 2000. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff, of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the provider, who has early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except bank holidays and some days over the Christmas period. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Julie Dent

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 their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector conducted a learning walk with the manager of the setting.
- During a joint observation, the manager and the inspector evaluated the quality of education together.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A sample of documentation, including staff's suitability records and policies and procedures, were looked at by the inspector.

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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