

# Inspection of Nature Trail Nursery Railway

Railway Tavern, The Ordnance, Wigan Road, Euxton, Chorley, Lancashire PR7 6LA

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Inspection date: 1 December 2021

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

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children are happy and enjoy their time at nursery. They form close relationships with the caring staff and their peers. Children are eager to explore the interesting activities on offer. Toddlers enjoy making snowmen with the play dough and pom-poms. This helps to develop their coordination and the small muscles in their hands, in preparation for early writing. Children of all ages join in with exciting stories and joyful singing throughout their day. They are encouraged to develop a love of books and reading as the staff read aloud in a captivating way.

Staff have high expectations of all children. They allow children time to practise new skills. For example, toddlers successfully serve their own lunch with a large spoon. Pre-school children show pride when they manage to carry their own lunch tray to the table. Children demonstrate good manners and patience. Two-year-old children politely ask for the water dispenser to be refilled when it is empty. They wait for staff to bring more water before filling their own cup.

Managers have worked hard to ensure that relationships with parents have been nurtured throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents are encouraged to engage with staff on the new online application. They can share information about what children do at home and find out what their children are learning at nursery. Parents comment on the 'amazing job' the staff do and how well managers support their families. They say that the nursery is a 'complete cut above the rest'.

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

- A culture of respect is embedded in the nursery. Staff ask babies if they can wipe their nose and talk children through the routine of a nappy change. Care giving moments are enhanced by the staff, who have put thought and effort into making the changing area a place where babies are relaxed and happy.
- When children first start at nursery, staff obtain detailed information from parents about their child's interests, routines and what they know and can do. They use this information to plan interesting and challenging activities. This helps children develop knowledge and skills in readiness for the next stage of their learning. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well to make the best possible progress.
- Staff use assessment effectively to check for gaps in children's learning. Where gaps are identified, staff put support in place to help children catch up. Leaders are diligent in ensuring staff access regular training to update their knowledge and skills. They make sure this is targeted to benefit children. Leaders ensure staff workload is manageable. They use an online application to monitor children's development. This enables staff to spend more time teaching children.
- Children's physical development is promoted well. They have daily opportunities

for fresh air, which benefits their physical health. Older children play outside in all weathers. They delight in jumping in muddy puddles and laugh gleefully as the staff join in. Babies and children new to walking are supported and encouraged by the caring staff, who offer praise for their achievements.

- Children develop independence and learn about good hygiene as they wash their hands after messy play or before eating. Older children demonstrate that they know why this is important as they tell the inspector about germs. Children learn the importance of a healthy diet and find out how to keep their teeth healthy through fun activities. Staff sensitively encourage children to rest when they are tired.
- The curriculum for mathematics is woven throughout all areas of learning. However, staff's teaching of mathematics does not ensure children develop a deep understanding. Consequently, some children's understanding of number is basic.
- Managers and staff are passionate about developing children's communication and language skills. However, staff do not consistently model a wide range of vocabulary. This limits opportunities for children to hear and practise their speech and language skills from the earliest age.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders ensure staff's knowledge of safeguarding issues is current and thorough. For example, they complete training on radicalisation, female genital mutilation, and witchcraft. Staff know signs and symptoms of abuse and know the local referral procedures if they have a concern. Managers complete regular checks of the premises to ensure all areas accessed by children are safe and secure. Leaders have effective recruitment procedures to ensure all staff are suitable.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- enhance children's communication and language skills even further by enabling them to hear and practise new vocabulary regularly
- use even more opportunities in play to deepen children's understanding of number.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2518503
<b>Local authority</b>	Lancashire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10194593
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	69
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Comparenurseries.com Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP535089
<b>Telephone number</b>	01254 830912
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Nature Trail Nursery Railway registered in 2019. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at levels 2 or 3. The manager holds a childcare qualification at level 4. The nursery operates for 51 weeks of the year excepting bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Amy Johnson

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager showed the inspector the learning environment and discussed the curriculum and the impact on children's learning and development.
- A joint observation was conducted by the manager and the inspector to assess the manager's evaluation of staff's teaching.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- A meeting was held between managers, leaders, and the inspector.
- Interactions between staff and children were observed by the inspector.
- The inspector observed care practices and daily routines.

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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