

Inspection of Woodside Barn Day Nursery

Woodside Barn, Manchester Road, Rixton, Warrington WA3 6EA

Inspection date: 7 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children continuously demonstrate that they feel happy, confident, safe and secure. They enjoy the time that they spend in this warm and welcoming nursery. Staff gather a wide range of information from parents about their child when they first start to attend. This helps to ensure that children settle quickly into nursery life and their individual needs are well met.

Children demonstrate an impressive enthusiasm for learning. They lead their own learning, making decisions about what they would like to experience and play with. Staff have high expectations of all children. They provide a curriculum that challenges and motivates children to make good progress. For example, following their interest in the weather, older children discuss what happens to the clouds when it rains. They experiment by dropping coloured water through a foam cloud at the top of a jar. Children estimate how many drops the cloud will hold before it 'rains' in the jar. They discuss how sometimes the rain 'evaporates' before it hits the ground.

Children's personal, social and emotional development has been a focus of learning since the COVID-19 pandemic. They have plentiful opportunities to help them to gain confidence and develop their relationships with others. Children are kind, considerate and exceptionally well behaved.

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

- Children develop impressive communication skills. They eagerly enter into conversations with staff, each other and visitors. Older children use complex vocabulary to help to express themselves. For example, when discussing the importance of visiting the dentist, children remind the inspector of the importance of brushing her teeth for two minutes. They state that she must do this twice daily to avoid 'cavities' and 'extractions.' This demonstrates that children are aware of the importance of being healthy.
- Staff encourage children to be confident and self-assured. Overall, children are very independent and determined to do things for themselves. For example, they remove their own shoes and socks before attempting to draw around their feet. However, occasionally, the nurturing staff do things for children that they could attempt to do for themselves, in order to increase their confidence and independence even further.
- Staff have a good understanding of the ways in which children prefer to learn and use this knowledge well as they build upon children's previous experiences and introduce new concepts and skills. For example, staff recognise that children learn best when they are physically active. They plan for them to explore differences in size and encourage children to draw around each other's bodies

and compare who is the tallest and shortest.

- Parents speak very highly of the levels of care their child receives while at the nursery. They refer to the nursery as a home from home and praise staff for their kindness and the relationships they develop with families. Staff support parents to understand the progress that their child makes. They share detailed information and suggestions on how parents can support their child's learning at home. Parents value the recent introduction of online communication systems.
- The manager has a clear vision for the nursery that she shares with all staff. She is determined to offer early years experiences of the highest quality. Overall, leaders have a good programme of support, coaching and training for staff. The manager observes staff as they work with children and offers additional training to help staff to fulfil their role effectively. However, targets agreed with staff are not always precise and targeted enough to help them fully understand how to develop and extend their teaching skills to the highest levels.
- Staff link closely with other settings that children attend. They share information to help to ensure continuity in the approach to children's care and learning. Arrangements for children's transition to school have been different as a result of the pandemic. However, staff have worked hard to ensure that links are maintained, and that important information is shared during telephone and video calls.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have recently attended comprehensive safeguarding training that allows each member of staff to act as a designated lead for safeguarding. Staff recognise the signs and symptoms that would cause them to be concerned about a child's welfare. They know how to identify children who may be exposed to extreme views. Staff understand how to report any concerns they may have about any children or the adults they encounter. Robust recruitment procedures are in place to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff use risk assessments to help to minimise potential hazards and maintain a safe environment. They are vigilant about safety and maintain correct ratios to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to consistently identify and use all opportunities for children to extend their independence even further through their routines and activities
- strengthen the arrangements for staff supervision and provide more targeted and precise support to each member of staff, that helps to build on their good teaching skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY542464
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10219621
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	Woodside Barn Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP542463
Telephone number	01925813249
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2019

Information about this early years setting

Woodside Barn Day Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including one who holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. 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

Denise Farrington

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 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 spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- A learning walk was completed with the manager to discuss the curriculum intent and how the provision is organised.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children during activities and assessed the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the manager. The inspector reviewed a variety of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff, qualification, first-aid certificates and policies.

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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