

Inspection of Care Chiefs Highfield Hall

Highfield Hall Farm, Highfield Road, Farnworth, Bolton, Lancashire BL4 0AW

Inspection date: 17 March 2022

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 are happy and enjoy the time they spend at this friendly and caring nursery. They benefit from exciting learning opportunities, with a focus on outdoor play. Children explore the vast outdoor space where they enjoy climbing, painting and playing with farm animals. This helps children expand their imagination and make good progress with their large-muscle skills. Older children make Welsh cakes and later cook them on a campfire. They have a good understanding of safety, reminding each other to 'stay back' from the campfire and to 'listen to the staff instructions'.

Children are encouraged to be curious. The environments are set up to entice children to explore. For example, toddlers play with dinosaurs in the gloopy swamp, exploring their senses and learning new words, such as 'gloopy', 'sticky' and 'slimy'. Older children are supported with their mathematical skills, matching numbers and quantities. Pre-school children are encouraged to develop their early writing skills and are proud when writing their name. Children are kind and friendly, and show positive attitudes towards their learning.

The manager and staff have high expectations for all children. They work closely with parents and other professionals to support those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff tailor learning to ensure the education and care children receive supports them to make the best possible progress. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the nursery are providing children with even greater support with their communication and language. This has proven effective and resulted in children making good progress in this area.

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

- The manager has created a curriculum that builds on what children know and can do. She ensures staff attend regular meetings and have access to ample training. Staff report that they feel supported in their roles. However, this does not ensure that all staff understand how to consistently implement the intended curriculum. Occasionally, staff in the toddler room do not always have a clear understanding of what children need to learn next. Consequently, some activities lack challenge and do not build on children's prior knowledge.
- Overall, staff plan exciting activities. Staff working with pre-school children understand what children can do and need to do next so that they make good progress in their development. For example, children independently cut lemons and use their senses to explore what it tastes and smells like. They build their vocabulary using words such as 'sour', 'squeeze' and 'bitter'. Toddlers enjoy playing in the mud kitchen. They use utensils to scoop mud, add water and stir it up. Consequently, they develop their small-muscle skills.

- Staff provide children with unique learning experiences that develop their knowledge of different communities and cultures. For example, children travel on a bus and train to China Town for Chinese New Year. They enjoy a Chinese meal and experience traditional Chinese celebrations. Other trips include walks in local parks and within the local community.
- Children listen attentively to stories. Books are plentiful throughout the nursery and children enjoy selecting their favourite and looking at the pictures. Children show delight in singing their favourite rhymes, such as 'Five little men in a flying saucer'. The nursery lending library encourages parents to share stories at home as well as providing books for parents too.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery and are complimentary about the staff. They say that management are helpful and approachable. Parents say that their children are happy and are prepared for the next stages in their learning and are prepared for school. The nursery uses social media to keep parents updated as well as the nursery app. Parents like this and feel they are well informed.
- Children's behaviour is very good. They take turns during play. Children are respectful of each other and of the staff. Staff are good role models to the children. The children are able to resolve conflicts themselves because they have been taught the skills to do this. Children use their manners without being prompted, for example they say 'please' and 'thank you' to their friends and the staff.
- The nursery operates a before- and after-school club. Children have access to the outdoor space which is separate to the nursery children. Staff ensure activities are appropriate for the children attending. The manager has established effective links with the local school and they work in partnership to ensure children receive consistent care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have robust knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow to keep children safe from harm. They know how to report concerns and where to seek help should they need it. The manager regularly updates staff through meetings and providing training to ensure staff have up-to-date knowledge. Staff are deployed effectively, ensuring children are well cared for. Regular head counts take place and alarms have been installed on doors to alert staff when someone is leaving the building to go outside. Staff have completed their first-aid training.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen professional development opportunities for staff in the toddler room to help them support children to achieve aspirational next steps in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY556029
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10190074
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	2 to 10
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	AW Childcare Services Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531478
Telephone number	01204 867531
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Care Chiefs Highfield Hall registered in 2018. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold qualifications at levels 2 or 3. The nursery operates all year round. Sessions are from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kate Martin

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager to evaluate the quality of education.
- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk across all areas of the provision to understand how the leaders and staff organise the curriculum and environment.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the manager to discuss arrangements for self-evaluation, recruitment and staff's suitability.
- The inspector observed play opportunities for children, indoors and outdoors. She spoke to staff in the setting.
- A meeting was held with the manager. The inspector reviewed a sample of documents, including staff suitability checks and evidence of paediatric first-aid training.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022