

Inspection of Cottontails Day Nursery - Burtonwood Village

Cotton Tails Nursery, Mercer Street, Burtonwood, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 4JJ

Inspection date: 6 July 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 have a positive start to their education at the nursery. They make friends and form secure attachments with staff. Children are safe and content. They become deeply engaged in their learning as they explore the wealth of resources and activities on offer. Staff set high expectations for all children, which helps to ensure children's knowledge and skills develop over time.

Children behave well. Strong routines support their positive behaviour. Children listen to staff and follow instructions without hesitation. They are kind to their friends and enjoy playing in collaboration with each other. All age groups have access to dedicated outdoor areas. Children move freely between the inside and outside spaces, making their own choices and directing their own learning. Parents have accompanied children on a visit to the local park, helping to support children's physical development.

Children have lots of opportunities to learn about the wider world they live in. For example, they regularly take part in group sessions with older members of the community at the local library. This supports their understanding of different types of people, promoting a culture of tolerance and respect for others.

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

- Staff know their key children very well. They comprehensively track children's progress to help them decide what they want children to learn next. Staff make sure children's learning is secure before moving on to new skills. All children, including those who receive additional funding, make good progress in their learning.
- Staff extend children's learning as they play. For example, as children make footprints in sand, staff encourage them to compare the sizes of their feet. Children's understanding grows as staff treat play as a meaningful learning opportunity.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is good. Staff use strategies such as visual cards and signing to promote children's understanding. Additional adults provide support to children. This helps children with SEND to achieve the best progress they are capable of.
- Children have extremely positive attitudes towards learning. They are eager to explore and learn. For example, as children build towers with large bricks, staff challenge them to build the tallest towers they can. When the towers fall down, staff encourage children to persevere and rebuild. This helps children to become resilient when they face difficulties.
- Equality and diversity are well promoted. Staff teach children about festivals from different cultures, such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. They use books to

open discussions about different types of families. Staff encourage children to treat everybody equally, valuing and respecting each other's differences.

- Pre-school children show great focus during whole-group activities. They are eager to share their own thoughts with the group. For example, as children learn about different forms of transport, they confidently share where they have been on a plane. Children show a high level of respect and consideration as they listen intently to one another.
- Relationships with babies are sensitive and caring. However, at lunchtime, babies are not served their food in a timely manner. They become restless as they wait. Some babies struggle to settle for their meal.
- Children's independence skills are promoted well. For example, children are encouraged to wipe their own noses and put their tissues in the bin. This helps children to develop skills in self-care and builds their self-esteem. Children show great pride in their achievements.
- The management team is passionate about providing quality care and education for children. The highly qualified team of staff regularly attend training that is tailored to their needs and the needs of children. For example, staff have recently taken part in training on health and nutrition. This has helped them to consider portion sizes, supporting children's health and well-being.
- Parents are very happy with the care the nursery provides. They value the communication they receive through an online system. Staff send home ideas for parents on how to support children's learning at home. Parents and grandparents are invited into the nursery on special days. This helps to support positive partnerships between the nursery and families.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of the different types of abuse. They know what signs they are alert to and how to report any concerns they have. Managers regularly check staff's knowledge to help ensure staff remain vigilant at all times. Staff attend safeguarding training to keep their knowledge up to date. Allergies are managed well. Children wear tags detailing their dietary requirements and preferences. Staff consider the temperature outside and do not take babies outdoors during the hottest part of the day. This helps them to keep babies safe in hot weather. Any trips taken outside of the nursery are appropriately risk assessed. Staff give thoughtful consideration to how they will 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:

- consider how mealtimes are organised so that babies do not wait longer than necessary for food.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2564317
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10239243
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	120
Name of registered person	Cottontails Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2564316
Telephone number	01925 224735
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Cottontails Day Nursery - Burtonwood Village registered in 2020 and is based in Warrington. The nursery employs 32 members of staff. Of these, three hold qualified teacher status, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, two hold qualifications at level 5, 13 hold qualifications at level 3 and one is qualified to level 2. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, 7am to 6.30pm, all year round with the exception of bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amanda Richards

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 managers and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The special educational needs and/or disabilities coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- Parents shared their views on the nursery with the inspector.
- The managers provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation.

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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