

Inspection of Park Farm Day Nursery

1 Pont Park, Berwick Hill, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE20 0JX

Inspection date: 21 September 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 very happy and content at this welcoming nursery. They play an active part in their own learning in the well-organised play environments, which support children's curiosity. For example, they have many opportunities to explore, investigate and learn outdoors, where they share 'farmyard' gardens with rabbits, guinea pigs and chickens. Children communicate their understanding of the world with confidence. For example, they say, 'Ladybirds don't live in the soil, they live on leaves'. They know what foods to feed the nursery animals. Children learn about life cycles as they watch chicks hatch in an incubator. They help count and collect eggs and grow food in the allotment, which they then help prepare to eat or bake. This excites and motivates children to learn across all areas of the curriculum.

Staff are very positive role models for children. They are kind and polite and set high behavioural expectations. Children behave well, particularly older ones who show a good awareness of safety, sharing and how to be kind. Staff provide gentle reminders when required, and even younger children are starting to understand how their actions can make other people feel. Children and babies form warm and secure attachments with their dedicated key persons and manager.

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

- Leaders and staff work particularly well together which helps ensure that the organisation of the nursery works for every child. Since registration, the appointment of a capable manager and well-qualified staff is helping to drive improvement and maintain good standards in all aspects of care and education.
- The manager and senior members of the team are mentoring new staff, modelling good teaching practice and making positive changes to improve outcomes for children. For example, a new method of planning activities has been introduced, which incorporates children's interests and next steps in learning. Pressure for staff to complete paperwork has been reduced, increasing staff's quality time with the children.
- Children learn respect, to follow rules and to take turns. For instance, after a captivating dance class, children learn to wait for a reward for 'good listening'. This helps prepare children for life in modern Britain.
- Staff support children well to understand about their personal safety. For instance, they teach children to assess risk and achieve manageable challenges, such as balancing and climbing outdoors. Children learn to use tools safely, such as scissors, knives and tongs. Staff help younger children to recognise when they need to change their wet clothes after water play. They suggest when they need to take off their top because they are too hot.
- The special educational needs coordinator is knowledgeable in her role. She makes referrals for additional funding and support from other agencies. Any

concerns about children's development are shared with parents.

- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the nursery staff and the service it provides. In parent feedback questionnaires, many commented on the good progress their children have made since joining.
- Leaders aim to provide an effective educational programme for all children that widens their understanding of the world, across all areas. For example, staff use the learning rooms and outdoors well to their advantage. This means that babies and younger children benefit from adults playing with them, in safe and quieter areas. However, staff do not always give careful consideration to the order in which children learn new skills. As a result, their learning is not yet sequenced effectively throughout the nursery.
- Children make good progress in their learning. They develop particularly well in their personal, social and emotional development and physical skills. Many show good concentration and determination as they create large construction models out of bricks and initiate balancing beam games. Staff support children's learning through listening and expanding conversations. However, at times, some staff miss chances to promote children's ideas and thinking skills and ask more searching questions to extend and challenge them. This does not help to ensure that children achieve their highest potential.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff have a clear understanding of child protection procedures and what to do to help protect children from harm. All staff attend regular training to help them understand their duties. Staff know the signs and symptoms which might suggest that a child is at risk of harm, and the setting's procedure to report their concerns. This includes allegations made against a colleague and wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty. Leaders have secure recruitment and induction procedures to help ensure the continued suitability of staff. The manager and staff review the premises daily, so that all children are safe and secure.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- find ways to plan and use the educational programme more precisely, and consider more carefully the order in which children learn new skills, to ensure their learning is sequenced effectively throughout the nursery
- ensure that all children have opportunities to express and follow their own ideas, and that staff consistently give children more time to consider their responses to questions, to enable them to fully develop their thinking and communication skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2693792
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10254044
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	93
Name of registered person	Park Farm Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2693791
Telephone number	01661 820545
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Park Farm Day Nursery registered in August 2022 and is based on a farm in Berwick Hill, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. The nursery provides full day care from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week over Christmas. The nursery employs 22 staff who work with the children, including a cook. Of these, two hold qualified teacher status and one holds a relevant qualification at level 6. Of the remaining staff, 11 hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and two have qualifications at level 2. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

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 setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises with managers and staff.
- The manager, area manager and the inspector discussed how the setting organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this is having on children's learning. She carried out several joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents to find out about their time at the nursery, and took account of their views. She considered information from parents, given in feedback questionnaires.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector spoke to the senior management team about the leadership and management of the nursery. They showed the inspector documentation to show the suitability of staff.

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