

Inspection of Norton Hall Children and Family Centre

Ralph Road, Birmingham, West Midlands B8 1NA

Inspection date: 13 October 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 Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive at the nursery happy and eager to learn. They are greeted by kind, attentive staff who know them and their families well. This helps children to settle quickly and feel safe and secure. Children immerse themselves in the stimulating, exciting environment that reflects their interests. They enjoy independently choosing what activity they want to engage in.

Older children eagerly choose to participate in an activity where they try to remove dinosaurs from ice. They use various tools and try a range of methods to free the dinosaurs. As they do this, they are verbally able to describe what they are doing. Staff support them to learn new words and concepts, such as 'crashing' and 'melting'. This supports children's communication and language development, physical skills and understanding of the world. Younger children like using a range of pots, pans and resources in the home corner to pretend to cook food. They enjoy filling up pots and pans with pasta, putting them in the oven and then offering each other and adults 'dinner'. This supports children's communication, language and imagination.

Staff have high expectations for all children, and children exhibit good behaviours. Children are kind, motivated to learn and make good progress. Staff ensure children are ready and well prepared for their eventual move to school.

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

- The manager designs an ambitious curriculum that is clearly sequenced to support children to learn through the stages they need to make progress. However, this is not yet ingrained across the whole nursery. This results in teaching not being sharply focused on what children need to learn now and next in order to help them make the best possible progress.
- High priority is given to communication and language development across the nursery. Staff model excellent language as they sit alongside children and incisively know when to join in. They respond appropriately to test out children's ideas and encourage their thinking. This ensures children are confident to make decisions, solve problems and persevere at tasks.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are exceptionally well supported. The manager and staff have strong links with outside agencies and devise targeted plans of support for each individual child. This ensures children make the best possible progress they can.
- The nursery environment is welcoming and is reflective of the community it serves. The manager and staff team prioritise getting to know all children and their families well. The nursery celebrates all children that attend. This includes recognising their different cultures, celebrating festivals and respecting different

families. This contributes to children's high levels of self-esteem as they have a great sense of belonging and feel valued.

- Children's independence and self-help skills are well promoted across the nursery. They are able to successfully put on their own shoes, tidy up resources and wash their hands before eating. They also like choosing what healthy food they would like to eat while at nursery and enjoy choosing fruit from the fruit bowl to take home.
- Children have weekly sessions with a sports coach who teaches them about the importance of exercise. He also helps the children to develop their coordination and build good core strength.
- Parents report how safe and happy their children feel at nursery. They share how confident their children have become since starting and are amazed by how well their children's language has developed. Parents are pleased with the good progress their children make. They state they are very happy with the excellent daily verbal feedback and the regular parent consultations they receive.
- The knowledgeable, passionately dedicated manager shows great commitment to the professional development of her staff team. This supports staff practice and well-being and helps leaders and managers to identify any additional training needs. For example, the manager identifies that new staff need training on the early years foundation stage, in order to help them embed their knowledge of the curriculum and further raise their teaching skills.
- Children benefit from the strong links the nursery has with local schools. Staff meet with teachers and parents to share information. This helps to keep children safe and supports a smooth transition as children move on to start school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff know the possible signs and symptoms that indicate a child may be at risk of harm or abuse. They know the local procedures they must follow to report any child protection concerns. In the event that an allegation is made against any member of staff or the manager, the staff and manager know the procedures they must follow to report these concerns. Leaders work with their safeguarding board to complete rigorous recruitment checks to ensure that new staff are, and remain, suitable to work with children. All documents are well maintained, and records are accurate. This ensures children are kept safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to support staff to firmly embed the curriculum so that they focus clearly on what children need to learn now and next, to ensure children make the best possible progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY300034
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10234894
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 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Norton Hall Children & Family Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP907731
Telephone number	0121 328 3043
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Norton Hall Children and Family Centre re-registered in 2006. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate qualifications between levels 3 and 7. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am to 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery offers out-of-school provision, which includes an after-school club and a holiday playscheme. The after-school club opens from 2.45pm to 6pm during term time. The holiday playscheme opens from 8.45am to 5.15pm, each day of the school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Kiri Gill

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 childcare manager and inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the organisation and intent of the curriculum and how the environment is arranged.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching throughout the inspection and considered the impact this had on children's learning.
- A joint evaluation of the quality of teaching during an activity took place between the childcare manager and the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to parents at appropriate times and took account of their views of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and discussed how the nursery is organised. The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.

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