

Inspection of Woodthorpe Day Nursery

1 Albemarle Road, Woodthorpe, NOTTINGHAM NG5 4FE

Inspection date: 17 February 2023

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 arrive happy and settle quickly after being greeted by friendly and kind staff. They explore their environment and make independent choices from the interesting resources available to them. Children stand at the water tray, exploring with pipettes. They develop their small-muscle skills as they squeeze the pipettes, drawing up coloured water and transferring it to a variety of pots. They are supported by staff to use mathematical language as they play, talking about the 'smaller' and 'larger' pots they are using. Children grasp large pieces of chalk as they make marks on the floor. They develop their literacy skills, as they are encouraged by staff to think about the first letter of their name. Children are warmly praised as they carefully write and form letters.

Children develop their balance and coordination as they scramble up the climbing apparatus. They further develop these skills as they balance on the stepping stones, holding out their arms to steady themselves as they carefully and successfully complete the task. They use their imaginations as they run around the playground shouting, 'Quick! The dinosaurs are coming.' Younger children are encouraged to develop their communication and language skills as they pretend to talk on the phone. They develop this further as they snuggle into staff for stories and songs.

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

- The managers and staff have constructed a well-planned and interesting programme of learning, which ensures that children gain valuable and educational experiences. For example, staff build on what children already know by encouraging them to look for and identify recognisable shapes in the environment, which helps to develop their mathematical knowledge.
- The longstanding staff team say that they feel very happy in their roles. The management team is passionate about providing well-being support for the staff, and managers ensure that training opportunities are available. However, the manager focuses on staff as a team in the room rather than providing individual observation and giving individual feedback to staff to improve their practice.
- Children have close relationships with staff, and they benefit from their nurturing, caring approach. Children are warmly praised when they achieve things throughout the day. For example, as children balance and walk across crates in the garden, they are given positive words of encouragement as staff say, 'You can do it! Well done.' This has a positive impact on children's emotional well-being.
- Children benefit from a wide range of planned learning opportunities, both indoors and outdoors. However, occasionally, staff do not adapt the activities on

offer to meet the needs of all children. For example, in the toddler room, staff ask multiple questions to younger children who are developing their communication skills. Children struggle to understand the questions and sometimes wander off.

- Parents are highly complimentary about the 'supportive and caring' nursery. They receive daily feedback on their child's progress and suggestions on how to help children learn in their home environment.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) have good support in place. The passionate special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) works closely with families and professionals to coordinate and implement individual learning plans, ensuring that the right support is in place for children. As a result of this, children are making good progress during their time at nursery.
- Staff support children's understanding about what makes them unique. Children who speak English as an additional language progress well, as staff use words from their home language. They also embed cultures and family celebrations into the setting. Children gain new opportunities in the pre-school room to learn another language, as they sing and count in Spanish. They build their confidence as they pronounce Spanish words with increasing fluency, supported by committed and enthusiastic staff.
- Healthy lifestyles are promoted well, as children enjoy home-cooked meals and well-balanced diets during their time at nursery. Children are given the opportunity to grow vegetables, which helps them to understand how some food is produced. They experience fresh air by engaging in outdoor play on a regular basis, which helps to build the essential physical skills they need as they progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager ensures that all staff complete mandatory safeguarding training so that their knowledge is current. Staff show a good understanding about how to keep children safe in the nursery. They can identify signs and symptoms of abuse, including reporting allegations about another member of staff. They understand how to escalate their concerns should they need to. Thorough risk assessments identify any potential hazards, and steps are put into place to minimise these risks. Staff teach children about road safety, and they ensure that children are closely supervised when leaving the nursery building. Children understand the importance of keeping close and holding hands when on outings.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus the management team's monitoring on individual staff practice in order to strengthen the feedback they receive and enhance the quality of education
- develop staff's skills on how they use questions when they interact with children so that children have time to process the question and develop an answer.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412715
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10235427
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	100
Number of children on roll	153
Name of registered person	Woodthorpe Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522580
Telephone number	01159620415
Date of previous inspection	17 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

Woodthorpe Day Nursery registered in 1993. It is situated in Woodthorpe, Nottinghamshire. The nursery employs 26 members of staff. The manager holds early years professional status, 19 staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 and three members of staff hold an early years qualification at level 2. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year, closing on bank holidays, one week at Easter and Christmas, and two weeks in August. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Stephanie North

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 nursery.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The SENCo spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in 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.

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