

Inspection of Blossom Tree Childcare Centre Ltd

18 Cotton Tree Lane, COLNE, Lancashire BB8 7BA

Inspection date: 24 July 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 appear happy, confident and emotionally secure in the home-from-home nursery. Parents enter the rooms with their children on their arrival and are eagerly welcomed by enthusiastic and friendly staff. Children separate from their parents with ease and are eager to start their day.

Children listen attentively and respond well to instructions. They display good manners and show kindness to one another. Older children offer gestures of support as they place their arms around their friends for encouragement when they try vegetables at lunchtime. Children's behaviour is good.

Children display great attitudes towards learning. They eagerly engage themselves in stimulating and exciting activities that cover all areas of learning. Younger children explore with dough and search for gold and shells in sand. Older children play group games as they learn to follow rules and work as a team. Staff continually enhance the environment to build on children's interests and experiences at home. For example, they create a new, hospital-themed role-play area, with dolls and dressing-up outfits. Children are focused and eager to learn more.

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

- The provider and manager work closely together and are passionate about delivering a high-quality service to children and their families. They accurately evaluate their strengths and identify areas for development. Furthermore, they observe staff practice and hold regular well-being meetings. Staff say they are happy and feel well supported. As a result, most staff have worked at the nursery for many years and are dedicated to providing the best care and learning opportunities to children.
- In the main, the curriculum is ambitious and well sequenced. Staff get to know children well and provide activities and learning experiences that follow their current interests. However, some staff do not recognise when it would be beneficial to remind children of previous learning or check their understanding before moving them on, in order for them to build on what they already know.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well and are making good progress. Regular meetings take place with staff, parents and other professionals to set individual targets. These targets are monitored and reviewed continually. Sufficient adaptations are made to daily routines to ensure that all children are involved and included.
- Overall, staff interact well with children. They get down to children's level and use good teaching skills to ensure that their intent is successful. Staff model language and use skilful questioning. However, on occasion, children are not

given enough time to test out their own ideas and learn through trial and error. This is because some staff are too quick to step in and solve problems for children.

- Children's independence skills are promoted well. For example, they pour their own drinks, scrape their food off their plates and stack away their cutlery after use. These self-care skills help to support children in readiness for school.
- Children gain a good understanding of the importance of being active and healthy. They run around in the outdoor environment and carefully manoeuvre large buckets of water from one place to another. Children learn about healthy food choices, the need to drink to hydrate their bodies and to wash their hands to wipe away germs. This provides them with a good awareness of how to lead a healthy lifestyle.
- Parents express their appreciation and delight with the quality of the nursery and the support that staff give to their children. They say that the nursery is 'nothing short of exceptional'. Parents commend the ongoing communication they have with staff regarding their children's development. They have regular meetings and, together, discuss achievable targets that their children can work towards at nursery and at home in order for them to make the best possible progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a good understanding of the importance of keeping children safe. They know the procedures to follow should they need to report concerns about a child's welfare. Staff ensure that the environment is checked and free from hazards. They also make children aware of any potential dangers as they play. For example, staff point out to children the need to be careful as they jump off crates, as they are slippery due to the rain. Furthermore, older children pack away toys safely in the garden to prevent any dangers for the younger children. Safer recruitment procedures are implemented effectively to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider ways to further help children make connections to what they already know and can do within the curriculum
- encourage staff to provide more time within activities for children to sharpen their critical thinking skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370325
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10301476
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	59
Number of children on roll	66
Name of registered person	Blossom Tree Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP527907
Telephone number	01282866655
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

Blossom Tree Childcare Centre registered in 2006 and is located in Colne, Lancashire. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, of whom all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Kellie Lever

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The manager, provider and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- 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 joint observations of a group activity with the manager and the provider.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery 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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