

Inspection of Swans Care and Education

42 Whittaker Lane, Prestwich, Manchester M25 1FX

Inspection date: 9 August 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children dance into the setting happy and confident to start their day. Staff form remarkably strong bonds with children. They provide even the youngest children with ample opportunities to make independent choices. For example, they consult children before completing any personal care. All children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, demonstrate that they feel highly valued and secure in this setting. Staff create a learning environment where parents state that all children thrive. Staff's enthusiasm and love for the children help them to peak children's interest in every opportunity they provide for them. As soon as a member of staff takes a book off the shelf, babies eagerly sit to listen to the story. Children are keen and develop positive attitudes to learning. Staff spend quality time teaching children to be respectful of others. For example, when children are struggling to express their thoughts and emotions, staff work with them to think about how to best approach the situation. Children are developing skills such as empathy and respect.

Staff provide children with a variety of awe-provoking experiences. Children in the under-tuos room enthusiastically interact with staff as they play in the sand and fill containers, pretending to serve drinks. Older children excitedly make planets using papier mâché as staff build on the children's prior learning of the solar system. Staff skilfully support children in all areas of their learning.

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

- The manager has designed a curriculum intent that is tailored to meet the individual needs of the children. Staff are highly attuned to the children's needs. They are reflective and adapt the way they deliver the curriculum to respond to the learning needs of the children. This helps all children to make good progress.
- Staff support children to thrive in their mathematical development. They use everyday experiences to introduce children to mathematical concepts, such as size, shape and weight. Children confidently demonstrate their understanding as they correctly identify the long and short pasta in their play dough models. Children's mathematical skills are developing well.
- Staff immerse children in an impressive range of experiences that promote their physical development. Babies exhibit confidence as they independently use the indoor slide. Other children successfully navigate through obstacle courses during 'stretch and grow' sessions. Staff help children build their muscles through these sessions. Children are quickly developing their small- and large-muscle movements.
- Children engage in an abundance of literacy experiences. They have continuous access to mark-making resources that they use to develop their early writing skills. Throughout the nursery, children can be seen snuggling up on staff's

knees to engage in a story or independently choosing a book to read themselves. Children are developing a love of reading.

- Some aspects of the curriculum for communication and language are not implemented consistently. Staff ask older children thought-provoking questions. They engage babies in singing throughout all their experiences. However, sometimes, staff provide too much commentary. This makes it hard for children to process what has been said and form a verbal response.
- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour and portray this to all the children. Children develop a sense of security as they know what is happening now and what is coming next. The consistency helps children to manage their behaviour as they have a strong understanding of what is expected of them.
- Promoting individuality and an understanding of the world is given a very high priority. Children learn about what makes them unique and how these differences are their 'superpowers'. Staff also help the children gain a deep understanding of other cultures. For example, they learn some Mandarin using videos that staff have encouraged parents to share, to help children understand about different spoken languages. Children still speak about the Chinese festival dragon they helped to create and named 'Pong Lee'. These exceptionally well-thought-out experiences help to prepare children for life in modern Britain.
- Immense consideration is given to children's health and well-being. Staff make excellent use of stories, such as 'The Colour Monster', to help children express their feelings and demonstrate them through their play. Staff skilfully encourage healthy habits with inventive strategies. For example, they have introduced 'water super stars', which encourages children to drink more water. Children learn how to independently keep themselves healthy.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff attend regular safeguarding training. This helps to keep their knowledge of child protection procedures up to date. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have a concern about another member of staff's conduct. They carry out regular risk assessments and minimise any potential hazards. For example, staff place resources that require supervision out of children's reach so that they can only be accessed with the support of an adult. As a result, children play and learn in an environment that is 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:

- support staff to consistently implement the curriculum for communication and language to help further develop children's speaking skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY482453
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	10280272
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	45
Name of registered person	Swans Care And Education Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534051
Telephone number	01617988877
Date of previous inspection	15 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Swans Care and Education registered in 2014 and is located in Prestwich. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above and four hold level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Buckley

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and her room leaders joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- 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 coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- 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 observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a physical development activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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.

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 2023