

Inspection of Harp at Ingol

382 Tag Lane, Ingol, Preston PR2 7AA

Inspection date: 5 January 2024

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 happy, settled and secure. They clearly enjoy attending this welcoming nursery, having developed warm and trusting relationships with the staff team. Staff have designed the curriculum to help children make independent choices about what they want to play and learn. The nursery's core values: 'nurture, explore and independence' are unmistakably evident in staff's practice. Leaders and staff have placed a strong emphasis on helping children to understand the world around them and the world beyond. This helps to ensure that children are prepared well for life in modern Britain.

Staff are kind, caring and patient in their approach. Those working with younger children are particularly attentive to children's needs. All staff are skilled at recognising the importance of developing strong attachments, so that children settle quickly into nursery life and are ready to learn. Staff have high aspirations for children, including those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff help children to manage their behaviour by using clear and consistent strategies. Children understand what is expected of them. They show kindness and concern for one another as they play harmoniously together.

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

- The manager is knowledgeable and passionate. She leads a dedicated staff team, who together are relentless in their drive to ensure all children have the best possible start. The curriculum implemented in the indoor learning environment is very carefully designed, sequential and ambitious. However, the same, detailed consideration is not yet given to the curriculum for outdoor play. This means, that not all children benefit as well as they could from outdoor learning.
- Children are quickly developing into inquisitive learners, who are keen to try new things. Staff create exciting opportunities for children to consolidate their skills and knowledge. For example, older children refine their fine motor skills as they move pom-poms with tweezers around an intricately arranged tray. Children concentrate intently and persevere in this challenging task and their efforts are celebrated. Opportunities such as these support children in building upon what they already know and can do.
- Children grow vegetables to use in their meals and enjoy yoga and fitness sessions that contribute to their physical health. Children understand the importance of handwashing and talk about the need to remove germs before eating. However, staff do not consistently implement the robust hygiene arrangements expected by leaders. Furthermore, staff do not always recognise opportunities to teach children more about their overall good health.
- Children's communication and language development is a golden thread, woven

throughout the nursery. Children of all ages are immersed in songs, stories and rhymes. Carefully selected books encourage children to develop a fondness of literacy. Timely interventions help those children who may need additional support in their acquisition of language. As a result, children are making rapid progress in this area of learning and are becoming very skilful communicators.

- Children's independence and self-care skills are given high regard. They demonstrate an impressive understanding of what is expected of them as they competently manage self-care routines, such as lunchtime. Children help to set the table and are encouraged to solve simple mathematical equations. What children have learned and what they have remembered is clearly evident. They adeptly scrape their plates and tidy away their cutlery with no prompting from staff. These practices help children to develop and perfect essential skills for the future.
- Children are very clearly at the heart of this nursery. The same can be said for the staff team. Leaders make certain that staff benefit from round the clock support. This ensures that they are able to give their very best to the children and their families. Frequent supervision sessions, observations of practice and plentiful, purposeful training opportunities, help staff to continually improve their knowledge and skills. This has a resounding impact on outcomes for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop a sharper focus on the curriculum for outdoor learning, to ensure it meets and benefits the individual needs of all children
- support staff to consistently model robust hygiene practices and strengthen their confidence in promoting to children the importance of good health.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2707686
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10321176
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	55
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Harp Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2707687
Telephone number	01772 722764
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Harp at Ingol registered in 2022. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold an appropriate early years qualification at level level 3. The manager holds an appropriate qualification at level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30 am until 6pm, 51 weeks all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Karen Cox

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 manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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 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 2024