

Dearne Valley Day Nursery

Golden Smithies Lane, Manvers Park, Wath-upon-Dearne, Rotherham, South
Yorkshire, S63 7ER



Inspection date	3 July 2018
Previous inspection date	28 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager is an inspirational leader. Her passionate, dedicated drive to improve children's achievements is reflected in all nursery activities. The staff team shares the same vision for quality and has the highest expectations for all children.
- The manager and staff have expert knowledge of how young children learn. They provide a highly stimulating environment with focused learning experiences which helps children engage deeply in activities and make high rates of progress in their learning.
- Children's assessment information is reviewed with precision and accuracy. Any possible gaps in children's learning are swiftly identified and addressed to help all children reach their full potential. Staff training and additional funding are sharply focused and significantly improve children's achievements.
- Staff are supported extremely well by the management team. They benefit highly from targeted supervision meetings and excellent professional development opportunities.
- Children demonstrate high levels of confidence and behave extremely well. They proudly show the play areas in their rooms to visitors and describe the vast range of activities they enjoy, indoors and outdoors.
- Partnerships with parents are superb. The manager and her staff team provide a wealth of support for children and their families and signpost them to additional services, if appropriate, to meet children's individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement the excellent improvement plans that provide even more inspiring learning opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager uses her professional knowledge superbly to provide a safe, secure and highly stimulating environment that promotes children's learning to the highest level. She is supported extremely well by her dedicated management team. Together, they ensure all activities are highly effective in meeting children's individual needs. The manager demonstrates a very strong drive to continually review and improve the nursery and actively seeks the views of parents, staff and children. She has identified the need to provide even more learning experiences, especially for children who like to play outdoors. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have strong knowledge of the signs and symptoms that may indicate possible abuse. They know to act swiftly should they have any concerns regarding a child's welfare. Procedures for managing events, such as any allegations made against the staff team, are managed in a highly effective way.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff make accurate and precise assessments of children's learning. They use this information exceptionally well to plan highly challenging experiences that are meticulously focused on children's individual learning needs. Throughout the nursery, teaching is consistently of a very high quality. For example, staff use clear, concise language when supporting very young children and babies. They make comments, such as, 'You are filling the bucket right to the top', when children explore the sand tray. Older children are supported equally well. For instance, staff provide tape measures in the construction area and encourage children to measure the bricks and around the perimeter of their shoe. Children demonstrate exceptional skills for their age and recognise numbers, such as 59.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's health, welfare and well-being are placed at the heart of all activities. Staff provide superior levels of support to children and their families. Meticulous care is provided for children's emotional and physical needs. Excellent arrangements are in place to care for children who are settling in or become upset. Excellent partnerships with parents ensure continuity in the care children receive. Parents describe the quality of the care provided as, 'Brilliant, I wouldn't go anywhere else'.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make high rates of progress in their learning, based on their individual starting points. Two-year-old children listen attentively to stories staff read to them. They sustain concentration and join in with familiar phrases. Pre-school children use mathematical language to talk about the amount of water they have in their measuring jug. They look at the scale and make comments, such as, 'I need more to make 25'. This prepares them exceptionally well with the skills and knowledge they require for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303217
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	1103454
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	191
Name of registered person	For Under Fives Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907030
Date of previous inspection	28 October 2014
Telephone number	01709 871100

Dearne Valley Day Nursery registered in 1999. The nursery employs 28 members of childcare staff. Of these, 23 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who holds early years professional status. 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 and those eligible for early years pupil premium.

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