

Yarrow House Nursery School



80a Manchester Road, Southport, Merseyside, PR9 9BJ

Inspection date

19 March 2015

Previous inspection date

2 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leadership and management, teaching, and support for children are significantly better than at the previous inspection. Leaders welcome every opportunity to review and improve their work with ever more skill, care and detail. Teaching over time is excellent and all children, including different groups, make outstanding progress in their learning.
- This is a nursery where all staff hold high expectations of what children can achieve. This approach begins in the baby room where the youngest children are given excellent support to become settled, happy and confident. By the time that children leave the nursery, they are prepared fully for primary school and for life in modern Britain.
- Children relate very well to their key person from the staff team because staff are so caring, warm and interested in them. The nursery gives first-rate support for parents in helping their children's learning at home.
- The care and protection of children is excellent because leaders and staff have a detailed understanding of how to keep babies and young children safe.
- Staff are highly qualified and experienced in working with young children. They have excellent access to training. Checks on their work by leaders are very thorough and linked to extremely clear feedback about how to improve. All this means that the nursery has a staff who are highly skilful, confident and willing to improve.
- Leaders have a good understanding of what the nursery does well and where it can develop even further. They recognise that displays of children's learning in the corridors are better than some within the classrooms. They understand, on occasion, some activities for two-year-olds are less successful than others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that displays of children's work in classrooms are presented as thoughtfully as those in the corridors
- build on the excellent teaching within the two-year-old classroom to ensure that activities for this age group are all equally interesting and meaningful.

Inspection activities

- Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) spoke to children and observed care, learning and teaching in the nursery classrooms and outdoors. Some teaching was observed jointly with the nursery manager.
- Meetings were held with the registered person, the manager, a range of staff, and a representative of the local authority.
- HMI spoke to some parents and carers and considered the nursery review of a recent survey of parents' views.
- HMI looked at children's work and displays in classrooms and corridors.
- HMI checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of nursery staff.
- HMI considered a wide range of documents including: reviews of how well the nursery is developing; plans for the future; documents about the care and protection of children; evidence from support visits by the local authority; nursery reviews of the quality of learning; plans for learning; and information about children's progress.

Inspector

Tim Vaughan Her Majesty's Inspector

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The quality of teaching over time is outstanding. Leaders make thorough checks on the work of staff and give them regular, detailed and very helpful feedback. Checks made on the progress of children across the nursery are precise and accurate. Excellent levels of staff qualifications, the staff team's wide experience of early years work and their excellent access to training, have a highly positive impact on teaching. Children are developing the skills they need for moving to the next classroom, as well being prepared fully for primary school and life in modern Britain. Staff make excellent use of their assessments to plan next steps for children. This helps different groups of children to make excellent progress in their learning. Staff support children's development very successfully through play, discussions and well-planned activities. Just occasionally, some activities at group time for two-year-olds are less successful than others for this age group. Staff have high expectations, for example during the inspection, babies were given an opportunity to try and sprinkle glitter into a floor tray of dough, rather than staff taking over. The presentation of children's learning within the foyer and corridors, such as a display from 'Build with dads week', are fantastic. However, some displays of children's learning within classrooms are less well developed.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Staff are sincere, sensitive and highly caring. They meet children's needs exceptionally well. This high quality care starts in the baby room where the youngest children are given excellent support and every effort is made to keep them safe. As a result, babies start to feel relaxed, comfortable and good about themselves, which gives them a great headstart in their learning. Staff take every step they can to help children to be healthy. Children across the nursery enjoy being in groups with their special key person and this helps them to get on well with adults. Parents praise the nursery highly and welcome the excellent efforts by staff to help them to understand and support children's learning at home. Leaders develop and support staff very well through individual meetings. They test staff knowledge regularly about children's care and protection so that throughout the nursery, staff have a detailed understanding about how to keep children safe.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

As a result of outstanding leadership and management, the nursery has improved significantly since the previous inspection. The local authority has given excellent support and the nursery welcomes every chance to review what they are doing and to achieve the very best. Staff and leaders are now using their comprehensive knowledge of national requirements about early years education to the full. For example, the pre-school is given an excellent steer by the Qualified Teacher in charge of the rooms. All leaders, including room leaders know in detail the strengths and areas to improve within the nursery and they use targets very well to improve staff practice. The nursery is now extremely well placed to improve even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410548
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	1008567
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	164
Number of children on roll	164
Name of provider	Yarrow House Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 April 2014
Telephone number	01704 534855

Yarrow House Nursery School is located in Southport. It was established in 1962 and has been operated by the current owners since 2000. It re-registered and moved to the current premises in 2010. It is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, with the exception of bank holidays. The setting has provision for babies and toddlers and provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-olds. There are 180 children attending across each week, including children with Special Educational Needs and children who speak English as an additional language. Children are cared for in six rooms over two floors and they have access to enclosed outdoor play areas. There are 28 staff working directly with the children, all of whom have appropriate early years qualifications. Of these, the owner holds Qualified Teacher Status and Early Years Professional status. Another two staff have Early Years Professional status. One further member of staff holds Qualified Teacher Status specialising in early years / primary education. Six members of staff have an honours degree in early years. Two members of staff have an early years qualification at level 4 and 18 staff have early years qualifications at level 3.

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