

Buckingham's Nursery School



Buckingham's Nursery School, Buxton Road, Leek, Staffordshire, ST13 6NE

Inspection date	29 October 2015
Previous inspection date	28 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children are self-motivated and enthusiastic learners. This is because staff have an astute understanding of how children learn. They successfully extend learning through targeted planning and high-quality teaching. Consequently, children make wonderful progress.
- Leadership and management are outstanding. The experienced leadership team demonstrate a very strong commitment to providing first-rate provision. There is consistent monitoring of the setting and highly effective systems of self-evaluation.
- All staff receive ongoing training in child protection and safeguarding issues. Well-implemented policies and procedures and robust recruitment measures are in place. This helps to keep children safe from harm.
- Children benefit from a very effective key-person system. Extremely positive relationships are established with parents. As a result, children form excellent attachments with staff who know them well.
- Staff are exceptionally well supported. The manager carries out highly effective supervision meetings to monitor their practice and children's learning. For example, she checks staff's planning and assessment records. She also identifies improvements and staff training needs to set extremely well-considered targets on which to build on their practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance opportunities for children to learn more about people in the community and strengthen further their awareness of different occupations and ways of life.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and care routines in all rooms and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of an activity with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and discussed planning and children's progress with staff.
- The inspector held meetings with the owner, group manager and nursery manager of the setting.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the provider's self-evaluation form. She also looked at a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding, risk assessments and a selection of other documents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and those provided in written comments.

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team is knowledgeable and very effective. The strong leadership is guided by impressive management systems, and rigorous policies and procedures, to ensure children receive superb care from well-qualified staff. The manager and staff evaluate performance and this is successful in identifying its priorities for improvement. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff vetting procedures are robust and staff demonstrate a secure understanding of their role and responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. Staff have opportunities to develop their professional skills to a high level and this has a very positive impact on the quality of the provision, delivering excellent outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching throughout the nursery is excellent. Staff are highly skilled practitioners who make learning fun, purposeful and challenging. The learning environment has been carefully organised to provide children with exciting experiences and to support children's independent choices well. Imaginatively planned activities capture children's creativity and they delight in joining in games with staff. This is particularly evident in the opportunities for children to explore and discover outside and to develop imaginative role play. As a result, children display a strong disposition to learn; they listen attentively and show continued interest and concentration. Children make excellent progress as staff confidently identify and plan for their next steps in learning. Staff help children to be extremely well prepared for starting school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy, relaxed and move very confidently within the nursery. Staff are superb role models and they provide consistent messages to children. Children's behaviour is excellent as they share, take turns and play harmoniously together. Children and parents are welcomed into the nursery and staff take great care to tailor settling-in times according to individual needs. Staff make accurate assessments of children's individual progress which they share with parents to support learning at home. Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks, which are freshly prepared daily. They enjoy learning about different lifestyles and occupations. The manager is keen to develop an even stronger awareness of diversity and children's interest in the wider community. Children have daily opportunities to explore, learn and have fun in all weathers in the well-resourced and exciting outdoor environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in their learning from their starting points, including those who receive funded early education. They are enthusiastic and well-motivated learners who are keen to explore and try new activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218408
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	854493
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	125
Name of provider	Buckingham's Nursery School Ltd
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2011
Telephone number	01538 373773

Buckingham's Nursery School was registered in 1997. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday and 7.30am to 5.30pm on Friday, for 50 weeks a year. There are 19 staff employed to work with the children; 18 of whom have early years qualifications at level 2 or above. Of these, one has Early Years Professional status, one holds Qualified Teacher Status and three have qualifications at level 6. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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