

Heath Hayes Early Learners



Heath Hayes Cp School, Wimblebury Road, Heath Hayes, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS12 2EP

Inspection date	10 March 2016
Previous inspection date	1 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 new manager has worked hard and has brought about a very marked improvement in the overall quality of the provision. She regularly models her outstanding practice, using highly effective communication to inspire staff.
- Staff's teaching practice is regularly and precisely evaluated through rigorous performance management and one-to-one support meetings. This, along with excellently focused professional development, makes sure teaching is highly effective.
- Exciting exploratory experiences are provided that encourage a multi-sensory approach to learning, increasing children's engagement and giving them a greater capacity for learning. Children investigate and explore leaves, mud, sand and water.
- Disabled children and those with special educational needs make excellent progress from their starting points. Staff expertly identify, monitor and secure further support for these children.
- Partnerships with parents, other professionals and the school are exemplary. The new manager regularly seeks the views of parents, children, staff and the local authority advisors. This helps her to identify precise and sharply focused targets that drive forward ongoing improvements to the provision.
- Children's social and emotional development are supported exceptionally well. Children form secure emotional attachments with staff through a highly effective key-person system and settling-in procedure. Staff are exceptionally good role models for the children. Children's behaviour is excellent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development on raising each staff member's teaching skills as far as possible and maintaining children's already excellent outcomes.

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 looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the new manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the new manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day of the inspection and from information included in the nursery's own parent survey.

Inspector

Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are highly skilled at identifying and successfully minimising any potential risks to children. The new manager successfully implements a highly comprehensive range of exemplary procedures and policies, supporting children's health, safety and well-being. She rigorously checks that the activities provided support children to strengthen and deepen their skills in all of the relevant areas of learning. The new manager has completed a comprehensive audit of the assessment arrangements. This highlighted the need for staff to undertake further training in assessing children's development. As a result, highly effective assessment procedures are now followed. Children's next steps in their learning are precisely identified and planned for, in order to promote their excellent progress. The new manager has identified the potential to further extend the already excellent knowledge of the staff by extending the programme for their personal development. She recognises the opportunity to enhance their already first-rate teaching practice and, thereby, contribute highly to children's continued rapid progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children listen intently to their favourite story about a famous historical artist. The staff member successfully develops children's communication skills by introducing new vocabulary and using questioning techniques that challenge children to think. She skilfully values children's responses to the questions. Children are enthralled with the story and have made their own sunflower paintings at home, just like the artist in the story. These paintings are displayed on the nursery wall, promoting children's high levels of self-confidence. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their understanding of the world and their physical skills. They learn about growth and decay through daily, in-depth discussions as they observe their own planted daffodils bloom and fade.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Snacks provided for children are extremely nutritious and well balanced. Staff strongly promote outdoor learning and provide a wealth of stimulating learning opportunities for children outside. Children play outdoors for extended periods throughout the day. Children enjoy the wooden climbing apparatus with a wobbly bridge. This, along with tricycles and scooters, offers excellent opportunities for children to develop agility, balance and coordination and to take manageable risks in their play. Children and parents enjoy regular, exciting nursery outings to country parks, theme parks and the zoo. These visits provide children with exceedingly good first-hand experiences of observing a wide range of live animals. These outings also help children to successfully develop high levels of confidence and social skills outside of the nursery or home environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children receive high-quality funded early education and make excellent progress from their starting points. Older children are exceptionally well prepared to take their first steps into school. Children's communication and literacy skills are superbly fostered. Staff continually model clear speech during everyday tasks and shared, focused activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370814
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1016673
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	3 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	Open Space Nurseries Ltd
Date of previous inspection	1 June 2015
Telephone number	01543 276947

Heath Hayes Early Learners was registered in 2008. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds Early Years Professional status and the other two hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 or level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.50am until 3.10pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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