

Naturally Learning Poltair

Poltair School, Trevarthian Road, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4BZ



Inspection date	12 July 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 management team provides strong leadership and guidance to continuously review and enhance the staff's practice. Staff develop their skills to a very high standard which is exceptionally beneficial for children's learning. For example, they use excellent teaching skills gained from training to accelerate children's language and communication skills, and their understanding of the world.
- Staff are extremely skilled in using their knowledge of how children learn to provide meaningful activities that encourage deep levels of engagement and extend children's thinking. They continually check children's progress and have a precise knowledge of their abilities and what children need to learn next. Children are extremely motivated and make excellent progress from their starting points.
- The management team and staff form strong partnerships with parents and other professionals. They work collaboratively to share information about children's development. Staff provide additional guidance and individual support to parents to ease children's move to school.
- Children enter the nursery with great confidence. They form strong bonds with staff and excitedly greet their friends and talk to staff. They eagerly engage and sustain a high level of interest in activities from the moment they arrive, showing they feel secure and safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how children move through new, shared areas of the nursery to minimise the distraction for other children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outside.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took parents' views into account.
- The inspector held discussions with management, staff and children.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including policies, staff and children's records, planning, self-evaluation and risk assessments.

Inspector

Sara Frost

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The management team ensures all staff understand how to keep children safe and protect them from harm. Children's progress throughout the nursery is extremely well monitored. Any emerging gaps in children's learning are quickly identified. Where additional support is required, the management team acts swiftly to ensure this is provided. The management team continually strives to provide an excellent environment for children's care and learning. The staff constantly reflect on the quality of the provision. For example, following feedback from parents, they are reviewing how they can further improve parents' understanding of the benefits to children's learning of the outdoor off-site activities. Funding is targeted precisely to benefit children. For example, the environment has been reorganised to create a space to provide small 'nurture' group work with children who need a higher level of emotional support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Enthusiastic and highly skilled teaching ignites children's curiosity and encourages their exploration. For example, younger children relish the sensation of using all their senses to explore many different textures. Older children eagerly investigate the natural world. They discover how, by plaiting strands of wool and using a piece of wood, they can build a swing. They are excited to gain new skills, such as handling real tools with care and confidence. Staff enrich children's communication and language skills very well. They encourage children to think and work things out for themselves in high-quality and deeply engaging conversations. Children's learning is greatly enhanced in the outdoor area. For example, they grow vegetables to eat and learn why slugs have made holes in broccoli leaves. Staff foster and support children's imaginative ideas extremely well, such as constructing a 'police station'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children gain a highly advanced knowledge about how to keep safe through their outdoor activities. For example, they recognise foxgloves and know they are poisonous, but that bees like them. Children's behaviour is very good. They show high levels of consideration towards their friends. They learn to manage their feelings and know it is important to listen to others and to take account of different needs. At times, when working in a small group room, children lose concentration for short periods while others pass through.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those with special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language, are keen to learn. They make excellent progress and develop skills they need for their future learning. Children make great strides in developing their early literacy skills and are very confident to use their mathematical skills in everyday activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485530
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1005640
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	1 - 8
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	128
Name of registered person	Naturally Learning Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905872
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01726 63528

Naturally Learning Poltair is one of three privately owned nurseries. It re-registered in 2015. The nursery is located on the site of Poltair Community School, in the town of St Austell, Cornwall. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. In addition to the owner, there are 19 permanent members of childcare staff. 15 have relevant early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including four staff with qualified teacher status.

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