

Thornleigh Day Nursery

Thornbarrow Road, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EW



Inspection date

9 November 2016

Previous inspection date

30 April 2013

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager is an experienced and knowledgeable early years practitioner who leads a well-qualified team of staff. They work in a strong partnership to maintain good standards of care and education for all children.
- Teaching is good. Staff use a range of teaching strategies to help children develop skills and knowledge across all areas of learning. They provide a developmentally appropriate learning environment, inside and outdoors.
- The manager encourages staff to be reflective and think about how they can improve their practice and the setting. She seeks the views of staff, parents and children to help her plan for development and regularly reviews and updates improvement targets.
- Children behave extremely well. They follow rules and routines and show kindness and consideration for their peers. Staff have high expectations of all children, celebrate their individuality, support their self-esteem and help them develop a positive attitude to learning.
- The manager has good systems in place for the safer recruitment and induction of staff. All staff are checked for suitability. Opportunities for continued professional development help staff to improve their knowledge and skills further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although good systems are in place for staff supervision, individual targets for development are not yet focused closely enough on improving outcomes for children.
- Sometimes, staff do not encourage children to think for themselves and find solutions to problems as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen supervision systems even further and focus staff development targets more precisely on improving outcomes for children
- provide greater opportunities for children to think about and solve problems for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed children and assessed the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff, parents and children during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation including, policies and procedures, risk assessments, children's records, training and development records, supervision and appraisal systems, suitability checks and qualifications.

Inspector

Julia Matthew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are highly vigilant as children play and help them to recognise dangers around them. They remind children how to move safely and model how to use equipment and tools with care. Policies and procedures are robust and evident in practice. Risk assessments are used to reduce hazards. Staff understand their role to protect children from harm. They know what to do if they have concerns about children's welfare or development. Children's progress is closely monitored and any gaps in learning are planned for. Staff are quick to seek further help if children have specific needs. They understand the importance of working with other professionals, schools and settings. Staff help children to cope well as they move between home and different learning environments.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff get to know children very well. Highly effective observation, assessment and planning systems ensure children learn what they need to next. Children have many opportunities to explore, investigate and make sense of the world around them. Younger children develop physical skills as they pick and place pasta in a range of vessels, tubes and boxes. They sing songs and rhymes together, clapping excitedly as they do. Older children engage in role play, carefully wrapping their dolls in blankets and rocking them to sleep. Children develop good communication and language skills. Staff use a rich range of words so that children can name objects and describe their actions. This helps children to share their thoughts and ideas. Adult-led group activities promote turn taking and listening skills. Staff gather information from parents and skilfully build on children's interests and experiences at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Partnerships with parents are strong and effective. Parents feel involved in children's learning and well informed about their progress. Children are very well supported when they start in the setting. Staff work with parents to help children settle and follow care routines so that children feel secure and comfortable. Parents value how flexible staff are. They appreciate how well staff work with them to promote self-care and hygiene routines. Staff teach children how to make healthy choices. Meals which are cooked on the premises, are balanced and nutritious. Children often spend long periods outdoors in the fresh air, developing good physical skills and a love of the natural world around them. Staff are highly sensitive to children's needs. They respond quickly when children need help, rest, are anxious or need comforting. Children form strong bonds with staff, they feel valued and well cared for.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Children who speak English as an additional language are well supported to make rapid progress and become competent English speakers. Staff ensure that children develop the skills they need to be ready to move on to school with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY217276
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1064278
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Eldare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP524006
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2013
Telephone number	015394 48399

Thornleigh Day Nursery was registered in 2001, it is privately owned and situated in Windermere, Cumbria. The setting employs 10 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting opens from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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