

Nature Trail Nursery Heskin



Heskin Methodist Church, Withington Lane, Chorley, PR7 5LU

Inspection date	10 May 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Management systems for the recruitment and supervision of staff are strong. Staff induction is very effective and management follow safer recruitment policies rigorously. Management support and nurture new staff well. They ensure they are well-prepared and capable to undertake their role.
- Well-considered support for children as they move rooms within the setting and then on to school means that children feel secure and ready for their next step. Staff also help to prepare parents with information packs and advice, making sure they are involved.
- There are strong partnerships with parents and communication with them is effective. Parents are happy with the safety and welfare of their children during their time at nursery. Parents report that their children are enthusiastic and motivated to learn, and always look forward to attending nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children who prefer to learn outdoors have fewer opportunities to learn about words and numbers than those who choose to be inside.
- Staff do not consistently encourage children to be independent, particularly at busy times of the day, such as lunchtime.
- During some group times, not all children are able to learn at their own pace and distractions in the room make it difficult for them to maintain their attention.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors to build further on their literacy and mathematical skills
- provide additional opportunities for children to develop their growing independence even further
- review the organisation of group times to ensure all children can learn at their own pace and without distraction.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children throughout the day.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager and discussed assessment.
- The inspector spoke to parents and sampled some parent questionnaires.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager, area manager and company directors to discuss the provision and their self-evaluation.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as policies and procedures, recruitment documents and training certificates.

Inspector

Karen Bingham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management consider all aspects of safety, and they take into account potential scenarios when implementing procedures. Management and staff know how to recognise signs and symptoms of abuse and how to deal with a concern about a child or a member of staff. The manager is confident, knowledgeable and well organised. She knows the children and her staff well, despite being new to the role. The ambitious management team ensures that development plans are detailed and regularly reviewed. The views of others are consistently collected and fed into the priorities for improvement. Detailed policies and procedures reflect practice. The manager uses effective tracking systems to ensure children progress well and any gaps in their learning are closed. The management team understands where improvements can be made and which areas of the provision it aims to strengthen further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is strong throughout the setting. Staff use children's interests to plan. They provide activities that help children to understand the world around them and encourage them to think about what might happen next. Role-play areas, inside and out, have fresh fruit and vegetables in them, and staff encourage children to chop and 'cook'. Children pop beans out of their pods and sort them into pans and bowls. Staff make the most of spontaneous opportunities to encourage younger children to be interested in spiders and frogs. Staff have high expectations of the children. They teach older children about the life cycle of a frog, and encourage them to think what might happen when a frozen flower defrosts. Staff encourage children to be inventive and to recall past events. Parents are involved in their children's assessments and kept informed of their child's progress through meetings, diaries and daily conversations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Relationships between children and staff are warm and sensitive. Young children seek out their key person for support. Staff interact with children well and model good language and communication skills. They encourage children to take turns and share. Children demonstrate good behaviour and manners. Staff encourage children to take part in various physical activities. Children play on bikes and scooters, play football, dance, skip and run. The setting is homely, with many framed pictures of the children around the setting, and various cosy areas to entice them to read or have some quiet time. Staff promote positive values and give children opportunities to experience real-life situations, for example, posting letters at the post office or taking part in community events.

Outcomes for children are good

Children settle well and demonstrate that they are happy and feel secure. They interact confidently with new people and are inquisitive about their environment. Older children self-register when they arrive and write their own names. They develop skills that help them to prepare for school. Younger children learn how to walk, make marks and develop their language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500886
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1050709
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 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Nature Trail Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901381
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01254 830788

Nature Trail Nursery Heskin registered in 2016. The setting opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The setting employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold early years qualifications at level 6, one at level 4, five at level 3, two at level 2 and they employ an apprentice. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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