

Kenwood Nature Nursery

Montague House, 294 Cemetery Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S11 8FT



Inspection date	9 January 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

- Children make good progress during their time in the nursery. All groups of children are prepared for the next stage in their learning and are ready for school when the time comes. Staff are sensitive and responsive to meeting children's individual needs.
- There is a strong commitment and drive for further improvement from all members of the well-qualified staff team. The strong leadership provides staff with a clear and purposeful direction. Staff create a stimulating environment overall, to enhance children's enjoyment and adventures in learning.
- Staff are caring and vigilant. They ensure children are safe, secure and confident as they take part in the many activities that are available, particularly outdoors.
- Children settle in quickly when they first start, and develop firm friendships with each other. They are happy, inquisitive and well behaved.
- Staff make good use of their knowledge of each child's achievements to provide them with varied and imaginative experiences.
- Parents are kept very well informed about children's progress. They are very appreciative of staff's care and support.
- Occasionally, staff do not challenge children to further deepen their knowledge and understanding.
- Staff do not consistently promote children's emerging awareness of letters and words in the environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on staff's teaching to ensure children are consistently challenged to further deepen their learning
- strengthen strategies to promote children's emerging awareness of letters and words in their environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, including in the forest school areas, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff give a high priority to keeping children safe in all situations. This is reflected in all aspects of their practice. Staff have a strong understanding of the nursery's procedures for child protection. They make accurate risk assessments to ensure children always play safely, including during their adventurous forest school experiences. Professional development arrangements are sharply focused on strengthening the quality of teaching and raising children's achievements. The management takes positive steps to draw on the views of staff and parents in planning the nursery's future development. Staff make good use of training opportunities, often in partnerships with other settings and local schools, to develop the curriculum and assessment procedures, for example.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations overall and a thorough understanding of the needs of the babies and children in their care. They work closely with parents to help children get off to a strong start from their individual starting points. Staff have robust procedures to regularly and accurately assess the progress that children make. Babies are encouraged to develop their awareness of others and to explore the world around them. Innovative activities are planned, often based upon outdoor woodland experiences, that engage all groups of children and promote all aspects of learning. Activities are planned to build on children's interests and experiences as they develop. For example, staff help children develop their curiosity and understanding of the world when they work together to design and make a working swing using natural objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop an appreciation of healthy eating and good hygiene. Mealtimes are very social events, whether children are enjoying a well prepared, balanced healthy meal or a picnic around the safe woodland fire. Children develop the confidence to act independently and take increasing responsibility for managing and organising their own activities. They are inquisitive and physically active. For example, they learn to safely climb trees and take considered risks. Staff are positive role models and promote high standards of behaviour. Children are helped to be gentle and thoughtful towards each other. For example, they learn to listen to others in group sessions and follow stories closely. They follow instructions well and learn to stay safe in different situations.

Outcomes for children are good

All groups of learners achieve well. Children's physical skills are very well developed. For example, they crawl, jump and roll through natural objects, such as tree stumps and logs. Children are imaginative and creative in their role play in the muddy play and home corners, indoors and out. They learn to concentrate and persist at a task until they complete it. Children count, order and add numbers to 20 and beyond in many different situations. They enjoy listening to stories and traditional tales and re-enacting them in their role play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY543517
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10090310
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Forest Schools Kindergarten Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534004
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0114 2667123

Kenwood Nature Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold early years qualifications at level 3 or higher, including six at level 6, one with early years professional status and one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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