

Pathfinders Nursery

Crescent School, Bawnmore Road, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 7QH



Inspection date	17 July 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of 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 exceptional leaders and managers of the nursery create a well-organised, efficient and successful learning environment. They are highly reflective and strive to provide children with inspiring and meaningful learning experiences. Their uncompromising pursuit for excellence ensures outstanding outcomes for all children.
- The quality of teaching is consistently high. Staff fully understand the learning styles, preferences and abilities of each child. They provide innovative experiences that captivate children's curiosity and individual interests. Staff skilfully adapt and extend activities to challenge children's thinking and enhance their motivation to learn.
- Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings and feel supported in their professional development. This is highly personalised according to their needs and interests. It has a very positive impact on the quality of care and education provided and further develops staff's already excellent knowledge and skills.
- The quality of interactions between staff and children is exceptional. Settling-in arrangements are well considered to ensure that all children quickly build secure relationships with their key person, which promotes their emotional well-being.
- Staff form excellent partnerships with parents. The manager implements a range of highly successful strategies to positively engage with all families and ensure that all parents are fully included in their child's learning. Staff provide detailed and accurate information regarding children's time spent at the nursery and the progress they make.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are highly motivated to join in with activities and show respect for their environment, their peers and staff. Children are well mannered and consider the needs of others. They take turns in play routines and develop strong friendships with each other.
- Children's health is promoted incredibly well. Children enjoy wholesome, nutritious meals and snacks and learn to make healthy food choices. Pre-school children are developing an understanding of good dental hygiene. Staff support them to clean their teeth after meals.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement the plans to enhance the already excellent outdoor areas and monitor the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and observed children engaged in a variety of learning experiences.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a learning activity with the manager.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector talked to the management team about priorities for improvements.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from written documentation.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The management team is fully focused on the drive for exceptional quality. Recently, the nursery successfully completed a national quality assurance scheme, receiving a platinum accreditation. The management team scrutinises all aspects of practice and swiftly identifies where improvements can be made. For example, plans are in place to further enhance the forest school site they use, to provide children with even more explorative and investigative play experiences. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent knowledge of safeguarding procedures. They are highly proactive in protecting children from harm and know exactly what to do should they have concerns about a child's safety or welfare. Rigorous recruitment and induction procedures ensure all staff working with children are suitable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide children with an inspiring range of activities which quickly captures their curiosity and helps them to develop a positive attitude to learning. They support young children to think and predict as they build structures with crates and wood. Staff encourage young children to take risks, helping them to balance and negotiate an obstacle course. They are highly skilled in supporting children to explore and develop their own ideas. Children enthusiastically investigate sand and water. They tell staff they want to make an island for the dinosaurs. Staff model thinking skills and make thought-provoking suggestions that encourage children to seek information for themselves. For example, staff suggest to look in books or use the computer. Children identify and solve mathematical problems, adding more sand to the island to stop the flow of water. They make links to experiences from home, talking about the islands they have visited on holiday. Staff provide babies with lots of sensory play activities. Babies wriggle and giggle as staff enthusiastically sing and play musical instruments.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The sounds of children's chatter, laughter and singing fills the air of this vibrant nursery. Babies and young children enjoy lots of cuddles from staff, which makes them feel very happy and settled. Staff encourage children to confidently express their ideas and make independent choices about their play. This instils an ethos of mutual respect and teaches children to value the opinions of others. Children have ample opportunities to be physically active outside in the fresh air. They move confidently in a range of ways, participating in whole-group activities such as the '15 minute mile'.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points and are well prepared for the move to school. Children demonstrate advanced literacy skills. They confidently recall stories from memory and examine illustrations, identifying similarities and differences. Young children are highly focused and listen attentively as they play matching and sorting games. Babies babble and experiment with sounds and words. They are fascinated with the sounds and movements that toys make when they press buttons.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY557868
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10113692
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Pathfinders Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP557867
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01788 813666

Pathfinders Nursery registered in 2018. The nursery employs 25 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3, including five at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for the week between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.45am until 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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