

The Beacon Day Nursery

Sure Start Bradley & Whitfield, The Beacon Centre, Maurice Street, Nelson,
Lancashire, BB9 7HS



Inspection date	28 November 2017
Previous inspection date	19 December 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 key-person system is highly effective. Staff form secure and trusting bonds with children and their families. They use information from parents and others involved in children's learning and care exceptionally well to ensure their educational and emotional needs are met.
- Staff are well qualified, experienced and are good role models. They treat children fairly and with respect. They encourage children to be kind and courteous and offer constant praise and encouragement for their efforts. Children behave well, given their ages and stages of development.
- Staff are passionate about helping children to be physically active and lead a healthy lifestyle. Children play outside, are provided with healthy snacks and supported to manage their personal hygiene.
- Self-evaluation and reflective practice are used well to make meaningful changes to the nursery. Parents' and children's contributions are sought and valued as part of this process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully consider the different and unique ways in which some children learn when planning and carrying out some activities.
- The way in which some routine times of the day are carried out do not provide children with enough opportunities to 'have a go' and consolidate their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the different and unique ways in which children learn and use the information to enhance planning and shape activities
- review the organisation of some routines to provide more opportunities for children to 'have a go', revisit and consolidate their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and the provider.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and checked evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The newly appointed management team works closely with the provider to provide a high-quality service. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities to help keep children safe. Policies and procedures are in place, understood and effectively implemented. Risk assessments are in place for the nursery and for any outings. These are used well to further ensure children's safety. A thorough induction programme is completed and recruitment and vetting are robustly managed. Overall, systems for observation, assessment and planning are working well. All children, including those who are funded, have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress. Staff benefit from the improved supervision sessions and targeted training plans. Parents speak very highly of the nursery and are extremely happy with all aspects of practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well by staff, who use effective teaching methods. Staff provide lots of repetition and name objects to help extend children's understanding and developing speech. For example, as children play with malleable dough, staff talk to them about the colour, texture and smell of the dough. Additionally, staff make the most of these experiences to help extend children's mathematical skills. For instance, they encourage children to count the balls of dough and talk to them about concepts, such as size and shape. Children develop their physical skills as they run, jump and negotiate obstacles, such as tyres and balance beams, outside. Younger children excitedly explore a multitude of different lights and sounds as they play in the dedicated sensory playroom.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm and stimulating learning environment. Settle-in sessions are used well to ensure there is a smooth move between home and nursery. Staff take time to get to know children and their families, and partnerships with parents are strong. Staff are extremely proactive in helping parents and signposting them to other services. Mealtimes are a social occasion when staff dedicate time to be with children, talking to them about themselves, their interests and their families. This helps staff get to know children even better and extend their communication, language and social skills. Children regularly visit areas of interest in the local area. These experiences help children learn about their diverse community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children explore the environment with confidence and ease. They develop their writing skills and use tools and their fingers to make marks in sand, flour and dough. Children demonstrate their developing social and communication skills as they take part in circle-time activities. They recall past events, talk about their family and listen to their favourite stories. Children make good progress from their starting points. They are well prepared with the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394335
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1116161
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Hall Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP529011
Date of previous inspection	19 December 2013
Telephone number	01282 612086

The Beacon Nursery registered in 2009 and is situated in Nelson. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 5pm. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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