

Inspection of Clifton Lodge Nursery

228 Clifton Drive South, St Annes On Sea, Lancashire FY8 1HY

Inspection date: 5 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The exceptionally well-qualified, dedicated and experienced team of childcare staff successfully fulfils the highest expectations for all children. Leaders and staff collaboratively create a rich, vibrant and highly stimulating environment. They plan an exciting and challenging curriculum that truly ignites children's passion and thirst for learning. Older children learn about ancient Egypt and enthusiastically construct a mummy made of papier-mache. There are plans in place to collaborate with the local library to enable children to visit an exhibition to enhance their understanding even further.

Children flourish and develop exceedingly high levels of self-esteem and confidence. Their behaviour is impeccable as they play harmoniously together. Young children continuously demonstrate that they feel safe and secure as they explore the environment with an abundance of confidence and determination. Staff working with babies and toddlers are wonderfully gentle and nurturing in their approach. Older children benefit immensely from enthusiastic and animated practitioners who are highly skilled at interacting with them as they play. Practitioners pose challenging questions that encourage children to think deeply as they describe what they are doing and solve problems. Children immerse themselves in their chosen activities. They persevere and display an endless positive can-do attitude in everything that they try.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leaders put children at the heart of everything that they do. Staff are incredibly passionate about providing the very best possible start for children and their families. Through home visits, they gather fastidious information about what children can do and their previous life experiences. They make excellent use of this information to plan meticulously for children's individual needs and interests.
- Outstanding consideration is given to children's physical development and their emotional well-being. Passionate staff draw on academic research to implement a wonderful array of sporting experiences for children. Children enthusiastically participate in rugby sessions where they learn to sidestep, throw, catch, kick and jump as they imitate rugby players from the six nations. Mindfulness and yoga sessions play an integral part in children's daily experiences. This impacts positively on children's ability to focus in readiness for learning and supports them to successfully regulate their behaviour.
- Staff go above and beyond in their commitment to provide magnificent enrichment activities. Children participate in beach school sessions where they learn about pollution and the environment. They are supported to take safe and controlled risks during forest school activities and grow their own produce at the nursery's allotment. Children visit places of interest in the local community,

travelling by bus and electric bikes. Furthermore, children develop a unique awareness of their role in society as they engage with the older generation during visits to a local residential home and fundraise for those less fortunate than themselves.

- Superb attention is given to the development of children's language and communication skills. For example, as children play with pine cones, staff introduce sophisticated language, such as 'bumpy', 'irregular' and 'uneven'. Children develop a love of literacy and enjoy visits from parents and teachers who read stories to them. A recent project, that examined the importance of reading at home, resulted in staff implementing 'a book at bedtime' and offering support around creating successful bedtime routines in close partnership with parents.
- Children are afforded exquisite opportunities to learn about the world around them. Bilingual staff expose children to other languages such as Italian and Polish. When staff go travelling, they send children at the nursery artifacts and souvenirs for them to open and discuss with their friends. These fantastic learning moments effortlessly create awe, wonder and fascination in their young, inquiring minds.
- Partnership work with parents is tremendous. Staff share information daily via an online communication system, daily discussions and parent meetings. Parents have opportunities to attend specialist workshops, where staff impart valuable information about the transition to school. Parents fondly describe the happy, kind and dedicated staff team. Their comments regarding the care and education their children receive are overwhelmingly positive.
- Leaders are relentless in their consideration of the provision in order to ensure outcomes for children are exceptional. They are robust in their self-evaluation activities and use comments from staff, parents and children to drive forward purposeful improvements. Staff are expertly supported through frequent observations of practice, peer reflections, regular meetings and a wealth of training opportunities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have an excellent understanding of their role and responsibility in protecting children from harm. They are exceptionally vigilant and confidently describe the correct procedures to follow should they have concerns about children's welfare or the practice of a colleague. Wider issues, such as radicalisation and extremism, are fully understood by the knowledgeable staff team. Robust recruitment and vetting arrangements exist and are coupled with stringent procedures to ensure staff's ongoing suitability. Staff receive regular and detailed training to ensure they stay abreast of current legislation, and safeguarding practice is continually discussed at staff meetings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY298194
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10129168
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 to 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	110
Name of registered person	Learning Curve (Lancashire) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534316
Telephone number	01253 781921
Date of previous inspection	2 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

Clifton Lodge Nursery registered in 2005. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 23 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 7, including staff who hold early years professional status and qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the nursery to understand how the curriculum is organised.
- Meetings were held with members of the leadership team. Sample documentation was viewed, including the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with senior staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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