

Stone Eden Nursery School

Wheelbarrow Hall, Aglionby, CARLISLE CA4 8AD



Inspection date	9 May 2019
Previous inspection date	23 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff carefully observe and assess children's learning, and promptly identify and support any gaps in their learning. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong and information is shared effectively. Parents are invited to contribute their knowledge of children, which is then used by staff to inform planning.
- Staff actively involve parents in their children's learning. They regularly inform parents about their children's achievements and provide ideas for activities to promote children's learning at home.
- The nursery chef provides children with a broad range of freshly prepared nutritious meals and snacks. This significantly contributes towards keeping children healthy and well nourished.
- The manager does not incisively evaluate the effectiveness of staff training, monitoring and supervision to ensure the quality of good practice is improving even further.
- At times, particularly during adult-led activities, busy periods and routines, staff do not ignite children's interest and engagement and provide high levels of challenge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the effectiveness of staff training and support, and focus with more precision to improve the good quality of practice even further
- enhance the opportunities to ignite children's interest, curiosity and engagement and provide consistently higher levels of challenge.

Inspection activities

- The inspection was carried out following Ofsted's risk assessment process.
- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with a number of parents, staff and children during the inspection.
- The lead inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspectors held meetings with the nursery manager and provider. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspectors

Cath Palser
Frank Kelly

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their role in safeguarding children. They know how to identify and act upon any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. Staff ensure that the physical environment is safe and secure. They follow rigorous health and hygiene practices to help minimise the spread of infection. All staff are qualified or working towards a relevant childcare qualification. They are deployed effectively to ensure that children are supervised at all times and ratio requirements are met. The management team regularly seeks and takes account of the views of parents and children. They use this information to make ongoing improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy participating in a variety of stimulating experiences and lead their own play. They use their imagination as they explore the resources. For example, staff demonstrate to babies how to sprinkle the cereal. Babies are keen to copy and develop their own ideas, such as catching the cereal into different vessels. Older children use the wide range of media and materials to design different faces. Staff promote children's language and communication skills well. They encourage babies to repeat animal sounds and talk to imaginary people on the toy telephone. Older children listen well to stories. They join in with familiar refrains and show excitement as they anticipate what will happen next. Staff help children to match different coloured plastic pieces to make a dinosaur shape. They use mathematical language to support children's learning as they play and explore.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form a close bond and attachment with the staff and settle in quickly. Staff support children's physical and emotional needs effectively. Children actively seek comfort and reassurance from staff when they are tired or upset. Staff are good role models and provide a calm, positive and nurturing environment. Children behave very well. They enjoy helping staff to tidy the resources away when they have finished with them. They learn about the effects of exercise on their bodies. For example, they compare changes in their heartbeats after physical activity. Children have plenty of space to move around freely and they play with vigour and energy in the outdoor environment. They develop growing confidence in their own abilities as they negotiate the large play equipment. Staff teach children how to keep themselves safe. For example, children hold hands as they walk outdoors and use scissors with care.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, motivated and enthusiastic learners. They are eager to participate in discussions and join in activities. Babies are learning to crawl and reach for toys. They explore the resources with interest and curiosity, and enjoy discovering how things work. Older children develop good problem-solving and thinking skills. They experiment imaginatively with different resources, such as sand, water and malleable materials. Children are active learners and enjoy making choices throughout the day. They are developing the necessary skills that prepare them for their future learning and for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY369897
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	10104923
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	182
Number of children on roll	167
Name of registered person	Farrell, David William
Registered person unique reference number	RP514756
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2017
Telephone number	01228599400

Stone Eden Nursery School registered in 2015. The nursery employs 32 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 4. One staff member holds 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.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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