

First Steps Nursery At Froebelian

173, New Road Side, Leeds, LS18 4DR



Inspection date	2 September 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the 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 leadership and management are inspirational. There is a strong drive to deliver exceptional quality care and education. All practitioners are fully committed to continuously improving the already excellent nursery. The management team also supports other settings to help them improve their quality of care and learning.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. Teaching is rooted in a superb understanding of how children learn. Accurate assessment of children's interests and abilities is used to provide rich and imaginative learning opportunities. These help enable children to build on their existing skills and make outstanding progress in all areas of learning.
- Children develop exceptionally strong emotional attachments with their key persons. All staff are warm and loving towards the children. This helps them to settle quickly and they confidently explore the welcoming environment, showing a keen desire to learn.
- Partnerships with parents are remarkable. There is excellent communication and sharing of information about children's needs and progress. This enables parents to become highly involved in their child's welfare and learning at home and in the nursery.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary, as a result of the staff's high expectations and consistent interaction. Children's confidence and self-esteem are encouraged extremely well, enabling them to develop positive attitudes and ensuring their individual well-being.
- There is a highly stimulating child-centred environment, both indoors and outdoors. The broad range of resources is well laid out for children to keenly investigate independently. This contributes successfully to extending children's interests, imagination and language development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor staff practice, in order to maintain the already excellent quality of teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas where childcare takes place, including the toys, equipment and resources children use and observed interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and outdoor areas. She undertook a joint observation with the manager in the outdoor area.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff and of the self-evaluation and improvement plans.
- The inspector spoke to a group of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including written policies and information from parents' surveys, and discussed assessment, planning and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Amanda Forrest

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team and well-qualified staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities in helping to keep children safe. An excellent range of policies and procedures is in place, understood and effectively implemented. The highly qualified management team uses its expertise to coach, mentor and support practitioners. The manager has plans to adapt the monitoring systems to ensure the excellent teaching quality and skills of the staff team continue. Staff training is focused on supporting children's individual needs. The manager ensures educational programmes are monitored very effectively. There is an extremely broad range of imaginative and exciting experiences based on children's interests. Furthermore, the close monitoring of children's progress enables the management team to highly focus on supporting each child to reach their potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is exceptional. Staff make accurate and regular assessments of children's progress. They are well qualified and use their in-depth knowledge to plan a rich, varied range of imaginative activities that inspires and motivates children to learn. For example, children imaginatively use a large blue tarpaulin to create a pool of water and excitedly pretend to swim in the ocean. Staff expertly extend children's speaking and listening skills. For example, children introduce sea creatures into their play and pretend to swim as fast as possible away from sharks. Staff's excellent storytelling helps inspire children to appreciate the richness of words and images. The interests of babies are supported extremely well. Staff nurture babies to explore and investigate with confidence and curiosity as they engage with natural resources. Staff use wide ranging and innovative methods to successfully engage parents in their children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Healthy lifestyles are fully promoted. Staff provide plenty of opportunities for children to enjoy fresh air and exercise in all weathers. For example, children have great fun climbing and balancing on hay bales, which are used to create imaginative play spaces. Staff are very patient and calm and know each child very well. They support children's personal development extremely effectively. The appreciation of children's individuality and diversity is embedded in the nursery's practice and the key person's care for each child. Children learn to respect one another and value people's different backgrounds superbly. Rules and boundaries are discussed, enabling older children to have a mature understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress in readiness for school. They have many opportunities to count and use mathematical language during their play. They concentrate intently and work collaboratively to solve problems as they play together. Children's early writing skills are developing extremely well. They enthusiastically join in with familiar actions and phrases to alphabet rhymes. Furthermore, children are learning to dress themselves and demonstrate a very strong desire to explore and try new things.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY491372
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	1025440
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	98
Name of registered person	The Froebelian School (Horsforth) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525650
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0113 2588933 or 07525118591

First Steps Nursery At Froebelian was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager holds qualified teacher status. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016

