

Park Avenue Nursery School

20 Park Avenue, Kettering, Northants, NN16 9RU



Inspection date	21 July 2015
Previous inspection date	15 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children thrive and are motivated by an inspirational range of activities. This, together with exceptional teaching, provides children with an excellent educational programme through which they can learn and develop. Consequently, they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning or move to school.
- Staff implement extremely effective systems to monitor any gaps in children's learning, enabling them to put additional strategies in place where needed. This supports the outstanding progress that all children make, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff spend time getting to know children and their families. Children build strong relationships with staff and are happy, confident and emotionally secure as they learn and develop.
- Children's good health is knowledgably promoted. Staff encourage children to be physically active every day, both outside and indoors. They have well-balanced, nutritious meals and learn about the importance of good personal hygiene to help keep them well.
- Children's safety and well-being are given the upmost priority. Staff have an excellent understanding in relation to safeguarding children. They are fully conversant with procedures for monitoring and reporting concerns.
- Staff, parents and other professionals work exceptionally well together, sharing comprehensive information, which ensures that children's individual needs are successfully met and carefully considered targets are set.
- The manager has a strong commitment for reflecting on the setting's practice. She sets ambitious development targets, considering the views of both parents and children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop innovative ways to provide children with even more opportunities to choose what they play with.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and talked with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working with children and the provider's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children arrive at the nursery bursting with enthusiasm, eagerly anticipating the excellent opportunities that are waiting for them to explore and investigate. Children's curiosity in the world around them is exceptionally well supported. Children are fascinated by the fruits that are growing in the garden. Exemplary interactions between staff and children encourage children to want to find out more. They learn that fruits need to be ripe before they are ready to eat and some fruits taste better when they have been cooked. Staff support children's early mathematical knowledge. Children discover that if they put too much fruit into a bag it is too heavy for them to carry. Staff demonstrate a strong commitment to ensuring that all children develop effective communication skills. Staff chat to children while they are playing, sensitively introducing new words to extend their developing vocabulary. Older children are introduced to the sounds in words during small-group time. This contributes towards some of the skills that they need to learn to read. Staff make excellent use of rigorous assessments to track and plan effective and realistic next steps in children's learning. Wonderful partnerships with parents mean that they are kept very well informed of their children's progress and are supported to extend their children's learning at home.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children settle quickly into this calm, homely and child-centred environment. An extremely effective key-person system helps children feel secure and develop excellent independence skills. Staff go out of their way to ensure that children's care routines are respected. Staff are inspiring role models to children. They constantly offer praise and congratulate children on their achievements. Children behave extremely well. They are very polite and have outstanding manners. Older and more-able children readily help their younger friends. They offer plates of food to each other during snack time. Children develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe. When they are riding their bikes in a circle, they learn that it is better if they are all going in the same direction.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The leadership and management of the nursery are exceptional. Most of the staff are qualified and are inspired by the dedication, motivation and inspiration of senior staff. They work enthusiastically together, all actively contributing to providing children with the best possible outcomes. Currently, staff are considering further ways to enhance the opportunities that children have to make choices over what they play with. All staff have an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implement the requirements to a very high standard. Rigorous risk assessments, policies and procedures underpin this knowledge. Staff appraisals and supervisions are rigorous and carried out routinely. Professional development of staff is given the utmost priority. Parents speak with overwhelming praise about the learning and care that their children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220038
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	854535
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	21
Name of provider	Jane Rosalind Scott
Date of previous inspection	15 March 2011
Telephone number	01536 521674

Park Avenue Nursery School was registered in 1992. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery is open from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children with English as an additional language.

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