

Inspection of Torrisholme Kindergarten

New Hall Farm, 355 Lancaster Road, Torrisholme, Morcambe LA4 6RL

Inspection date: 10 January 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

All staff display exceptionally high standards and expectations for all children. Children are enthusiastic, curious and eager to learn in this well-thought-out and stimulating environment. Staff provide an abundance of highly stimulating and challenging activities, inside and outside. Children feel safe and secure in the setting. They develop excellent relationships between themselves and with all the staff.

Staff are highly engaged in children's play, and children make rapid progress across all areas of learning. The staff's caring approach ensures that all children reach their potential. Children flourish and thrive in the setting. The manager has high expectations of the staff and she carefully considers their continuous professional development and well-being.

All children display excellent social skills and behaviour. They are keen to undertake tasks for themselves, such as dressing, and to assist the staff members. Children become engrossed in their free play and during group activities. Staff are extremely skilled in offering a range of challenging and open-ended questions to very successfully increase children's vocabulary and language. Children are highly independent and confident, and display high levels of emotional well-being during play.

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

- The manager rigorously monitors the quality of education and staff's practice. She ensures that professional development and training opportunities are plentiful. The manager feels that staff's well-being is paramount and this features high on her agenda. The staff speak highly of the outstanding support they receive from the manager and the invaluable opportunities they have to further their own learning.
- The manager and staff team have a vast amount of experience in providing early years education. They skilfully and creatively provide children with a diverse and inspiring curriculum. The activities are expertly planned around the interests of the children. Children are highly engaged throughout. Children are well prepared for school or their next stage of learning.
- Partnerships with parents and with the community are a real strength of the kindergarten. The staff recognise and value the contributions of parents. Staff are caring and nurturing and clearly know the families and the children well. They have some children with additional needs and allergies, and the setting works exceptionally well with their parents to ensure that the children are included. Children have rich and varied opportunities that help them gain an excellent understanding of people, families and communities outside of their

own. The staff invite parents who work in different professions to come in and to share their experiences and skills, for example police officers, firefighters and postal workers.

- Staff have excellent knowledge of how to engage children in activities. Children show amazement as they play and explore the activities that are set out. They consolidate their learning through a variety of experiences. For example, children help to look after the setting's African snail. They follow the visual guide for the care of their pet and follow this up by searching for more detailed information online.
- Staff build on the children's learning and interests exceptionally well. They consistently introduce new language into the children's play to ensure that they are always extending children's vocabulary. Children are enthralled and enthusiastically involved during storytelling and singing sessions, both individually and in groups. Staff skilfully extend children's love of books through innovative ways. For example, the introduction of the imaginative book share and communication 'chatterbox' activities has helped to further extend children's confidence, literacy skills and learning at home.
- The dedicated staff provide children with wonderful experiences that enrich their learning. Their excellent teaching highly motivates children to remain involved, focused and engaged in all activities. They skilfully support children to develop their thinking skills. For example, when exploring ice spheres, they excitedly look at the patterns inside and discuss concepts of hot and cold. Children relish taking part and are making exceptional progress in their development.
- Children gain an exceptional understanding of how to keep themselves fit and healthy. They engage in a number of activities that support their physical and mental well-being. For example, children enthusiastically take part in their 'mile a day' walking challenge. They learn how exercise affects their body and how resting activities help them to relax and rejuvenate their hearts and minds.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff team have a very broad knowledge of child protection, including wider safeguarding concerns. Staff are fully aware of their role and responsibilities. They confidently know who to contact if they have any concerns about a child's safety and welfare. Staff can clearly identify the signs and symptoms which may indicate that a child is at risk from potential abuse and harm. They frequently undertake training to update their knowledge to keep children safe and protected. The manager and staff talk with children about online safety and the safe use of the internet, to help children develop an excellent understanding about staying safe while using online resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY321556
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10109733
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	43
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Torrisholme and Morecambe Kindergarten Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903343
Telephone number	01524 414114
Date of previous inspection	29 May 2014

Information about this early years setting

Torrisholme Kindergarten registered in 2006. It is located in the Torrisholme area of Morecambe. The kindergarten employs 19 childcare staff. Of these, 15 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two staff with qualifications at level 6. The manager has qualified teacher status. The kindergarten opens Monday to Friday from 8am until 5.30pm, all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk and a joint observation of staff's practice.
- A meeting was held with the manager. During this meeting, discussions were held about the development of the nursery, and the inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including staff's suitability checks, assessments and documentation linked to checking children's progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

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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