

# Barkston Ash Nursery School



The Village Hall, Church Street, Barkston Ash, TADCASTER, North Yorkshire, LS24 9PJ

**Inspection date** 23 September 2015  
Previous inspection date 13 May 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the 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

- There is an established staff team who are supported by a motivated and enthusiastic management team. This contributes to effective practice, efficient management and satisfaction from parents who speak very highly of the nursery.
- Staff know the children well. They plan a range of exciting and challenging experiences, which successfully engage children of all age groups and abilities and motivate them to learn. This contributes to their good progress in all areas of learning.
- The management team have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They show a strong commitment to driving improvement to promote the outcomes for children's care and learning.
- Staff are good role models which contributes to children's good behaviour. Staff support children well, enabling them to share and understand their own feelings and those of others.
- Staff are well-qualified and the management team make good use of their individual skills to promote the care and learning opportunities children receive.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The current process for staff supervision, which is also used to monitor the quality of teaching and evaluate the performance of staff, is not always fully effective.
- Children are not always provided with opportunities to explore colour, for example, how it can be changed, to contribute to their expressive arts and design skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on evaluating the quality of teaching as part of the monitoring of staff performance
- enhance opportunities for children to explore colour and change when using media and materials.

### 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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Lindsay Dobson

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management and staff team are well-qualified and work closely together. This has a positive impact on the overall effectiveness of the nursery and children's good progress. Staff monitor the progress children make and share valuable information with parents so they can support their children further at home. Safeguarding is effective. Although, the staff team have worked together for many years, safer recruitment training has been attended to ensure the employment of any new staff is effective. Staff attend regular team meetings and supervisions and appraisals are also undertaken. However, these do not always include effective monitoring of the quality of teaching to fully enhance staff performance. Partnerships with parents, local schools and other professionals are very good. This contributes to a cohesive approach to children's care and learning. Parents speak of the confidence they have in staff, the good progress children make and the wide range of activities available.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's learning effectively because they know them very well. Staff plan activities that promote children's next steps in learning and follow their individual interests. Activities support all areas of learning well. However, opportunities to fully contribute to children's understanding and exploration of colour and change are missed. Children are provided with ready-mixed paint and are not encouraged to experiment with blending colours together. Staff focus strongly on contributing to children's developing communication and language. For example, staff speak clearly, they ask children questions about their play and they read stories and sing songs during each session. Visits from teachers at the local schools further support children's communication and literacy skills as they read, sing and talk to them. Additionally, this prepares children well for the move on to school.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, confident and display good levels of self-esteem. Their behaviour is good and they follow the rules of the nursery. For example, children understand that only four children can paint at any one time. The key-person system is established and works well in practice, because staff understand of the individual needs of children. Staff promote children's health and safety very well. Healthy eating is supported at snack times and a fresh fruit bowl is always available. Outdoor play is freely available and contributes to physical development. Children enjoy digging in the mud area, using small vehicles to move the soil and balancing on the stepping stones. Staff consistently remind children how to keep themselves safe as they play.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are independent and motivated to learn, which contributes to them being ready for school. The strong focus on communication, language and literacy means that children can recognise their own names and are confident to share their thoughts and ideas.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY256241
<b>Local authority</b>	North Yorkshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	848392
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	39
<b>Name of provider</b>	Barkston Ash Pre School Nursery Partnership
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 May 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01937 557 602

Barkston Ash Nursery School has been operating for over 30 years and was registered as a full daycare setting in 2003. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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