

Inspection of Charnock Richard Pre-School

Parish Rooms, Church Lane, Charnock Richard, Chorley, Lancashire PR7 5NA

Inspection date: 20 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy. Staff know their children and families well and are very much part of the community. Children come in happily and are greeted by staff, who are genuinely interested in news from home. Children behave well, are kind to each other and respond respectfully to each other and to staff.

Children choose to engage in a broad range of suitably resourced activities. For example, children role play in the Chinese takeaway set up as part of a celebration of the Lunar New Year. Children choose from a menu, make pretend food and are asked to pay for it. They learn about people in their community and also about numbers and money. Children develop their physical skills, both indoors and outdoors, exploring concepts such as 'over' and 'under' and learning how to safely use steps and climb over apparatus.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff altered the routine at the start of the day so that parents were welcomed at the door with their child and did not routinely enter the classrooms. Staff observed that this actually improved the quality of the communication with parents and reduced any anxiety or emotional stress for children finding the transition to pre-school difficult. After consultation with parents, they have continued this practice and feel this is still beneficial.

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

- Staff have strong and meaningful relationships with parents, offering support and guidance where needed. Parents feel fully informed about their child's learning and confidently talk about the progress their child is making in both their emotional and educational development. They comment that staff are 'amazing' and 'go above and beyond'.
- Older children happily sit down to listen to the story of the week, 'Peter Rabbit'. They are invited to recall what they know about the story and then talk about the animals in it. This gives children the chance to revisit and reinforce the knowledge they have gained. However, at times, staff do not always give children enough time to think about and respond to the questions asked.
- Staff and managers work well with outside agencies to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, they regularly work with speech therapists, specialist teachers and nursery staff to review children's needs in cooperation with parents and then plan activities that will help their progress. As a result, children are now ready for the next stage in their education, and parents are fully engaged in helping them make that next step.
- Children are encouraged to explore and express their creativity by singing familiar songs, such as 'Old McDonald'. They choose the animals they want to sing about and enjoy making up the sounds they think the animal should make.

Staff celebrate the children's creativity, which helps them to grow in confidence.

- Staff accurately monitor and assess children's learning and can therefore decide what they want children to learn next. They then provide a range of suitable activities to support this, such as modelling language while playing with toy cars or in the water tray, which helps to support speech development. However, staff do not always focus sufficiently on the intended outcome, as they do not wait for children to respond or practise their speech.
- Staff provide a wide variety of activities that help to support children's developing small-muscle skills. Children pick up noodles with tongs and decorate cards and menus with small decorations, which they carefully glue and stick.
- Staff help children to learn about keeping themselves healthy by promoting good hygiene and healthy food choices during snack and lunchtimes. They also talk with the children about why this is important. Children confidently state that they need to wash their hands in order to keep germs away from their food.
- Managers and leaders are fully engaged with the entire staff team. They identify training needs, ensuring all staff are suitable and that they have opportunities to discuss their own development and well-being. This helps staff to feel valued and work enthusiastically to provide a rewarding experience for parents and children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a thorough knowledge of safeguarding procedures and how to identify, record and respond to potential harm or abuse. They have attended a wide range of safeguarding training to strengthen their knowledge further. They know what steps to take if they have concerns about the conduct of anyone in the pre-school. They know who they should contact both within the setting and within other agencies. Staff demonstrate a robust understanding of 'Prevent' duty and how they may be able to identify children or other family members at risk of being radicalised. This helps to support children's safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to ensure that activities provided are more sharply focused on what they want children to learn next
- encourage and support staff to know when to allow children time to think about and respond to the questions they are being asked.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309265
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10264732
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Charnock Richard Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP518559
Telephone number	07944 217699
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

Charnock Richard Pre-School registered in 1992. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. All hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 or above, including three at level 3 and one at level 4. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Neil Butler

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with a senior member of staff.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector talked to the manager about how they manage the provision.

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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