

Freedom In The Forest

Friezland Cp School, Church Road, Greenfield, OLDHAM OL3 7LQ



Inspection date	16 August 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- The manager leads her staff team with remarkable inspiration and admirable enthusiasm. She is highly qualified and uses her superb skills, knowledge and experience to role model excellent practice. The manager coaches and mentors staff and carries out one-to-one meetings to manage their performance. This has an extremely positive impact on the overall outstanding quality of the setting.
- Staff provide children with a rich, varied and imaginative environment and an excellent range of resources, activities and experiences. Children demonstrate extremely high levels of engagement in their play.
- Staff place the highest priority on supporting children to gain the skills, abilities and attitudes to help prepare them extremely well for future learning. Children are exceptionally confident and independent and develop outstanding physical skills.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff provide children with clear and consistent boundaries and teach them the rules of the setting. Children develop an extremely mature understanding of the difference between right and wrong. They are extremely kind, caring and helpful towards staff and each other.
- The key-person system is highly effective. Children make extremely close emotional attachments with staff and strong friendships with each other. They feel extremely safe and secure in the setting, which has a positive impact on their self-esteem, emotional security and well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and schools that children also attend are highly effective. Exceptional arrangements for sharing information help to promote excellent consistency of care and learning for all 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 provide excellent opportunities for staff to consistently enhance their knowledge and skills to help to drive and sustain already outstanding practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaging in activities in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, including safeguarding procedures and evidence of the qualifications and suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Kelly

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection and the referral procedures to follow should they have concerns about the health or welfare of children. Highly effective security systems, deployment of staff and very robust risk assessment procedures help to ensure children are kept safe and protected from harm. Self-evaluation is an ongoing process and includes the views of all staff, children and parents. Staff consistently reflect on their practice, activities, resources and environment and make changes to meet the individual needs and interests of the children. The manager is proactive at seeking out information and training to help further enhance the quality of the setting. She recognises the importance of continual professional development to enable staff to consistently update their knowledge and skills. Parents are highly complimentary about the care and education their children receive. They trust staff implicitly and comment that children are extremely happy, well settled and safe and thoroughly enjoy their time in the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thrive in this outstanding setting. Staff have an excellent understanding of child development and how children learn best. They are full of fun and enthusiasm and this is imitated by children as they play and learn together. Children spend the majority of time playing outside in the forest area. The skills and knowledge they gain from this environment and the high-quality staff interaction are phenomenal. For example, children demonstrate an impressive range of vocabulary and an excellent knowledge and understanding of the world around them. They confidently name trees, such as, 'oak', 'larch', 'willow', 'hawthorn', 'sycamore', 'beech' and 'birch'. Children use words, such as, 'bendy', 'rough', 'smooth', 'prickly' and 'soft' to describe the leaves and materials they find when on a treasure hunt. They use seeds and berries to make pretend soup, create fairy houses out of twigs and leaves and sprinkle breadcrumbs on the ground to make trails. Children demonstrate excellent problem-solving skills, creativity and imagination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children participate in a wide range of activities and games that helps to promote their personal, social and emotional skills exceptionally well. For example, they play a game when they hold hands in a circle and have to pass a hoop to each other without breaking the circle. This requires children to cooperate, negotiate and help each other to achieve the task. Children clap and cheer and consistently praise each other for their efforts. This has a positive impact on their self-esteem. Staff teach children about healthy eating in a variety of ways, one of which is to discuss which healthy foods to put into their lunchbox. Children say, 'Carrots, grapes, cheese, oranges, yogurts and a bottle of water'. They explain the rules that they have to abide by when using tools, such as mallets and scissors. Children talk about wearing hats, applying sun cream and drinking lots of water when it is hot. They demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the procedures to follow should they need to evacuate the setting in an emergency. Children learn how to manage risks in a safe controlled environment. They develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY535843
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	10057018
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	107
Name of registered person	Keeley, Rebecca Anna
Registered person unique reference number	RP535842
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07718163792

Freedom In The Forest registered in 2016. The setting operates from Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm during school holidays only. There are three members of childcare staff employed. The manager holds qualified teacher status and an advanced forest schools training certificate at level 3.

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