

DCSF Quality Case Study

Woodside Primary Start Early Learning and Childcare Centre, Oswestry, Shropshire

Introduction

Woodside Primary Start Early Learning and Childcare Centre opened in 2006 and operates from a purpose built building in the school grounds that links directly into the main school building. There is access to a safe and secure outside play area.

A maximum of 40 children may attend the setting at any one time and there are currently 95 children on roll aged from six months to seven years. There are currently 20 children receiving funding for nursery education.

The centre is open Monday to Friday all year round. It is open from 8am to 6pm. Children are able to attend for a variety of sessions. The childcare centre supports children with disabilities, learning difficulties and children who speak English as an additional language.

The setting is run by the governing body of the school under their extended schools powers and is fully integrated with the local authority maintained nursery at the school. There is a nursery manager in place in the childcare setting and a qualified teacher employed by the school who works across the two settings; there are also two staff in the nursery who are currently on an Early Years Professional pathway who also work closely with the teacher in planning the learning and development activities.

Quality

Offering extended services, in an increasingly diverse community, but low wage economy, there is a real appreciation of the need to deliver a good quality service to the paying customer. The setting prides itself on having a strong staff team and a honest and genuine dialogue with parents. This has cemented relationships with parents, making them feel more secure and comfortable.

Speaking to the nursery manager, quality provision to her is reinforced by the following
“I have mums who come in and leave their children with the nursery, knowing that their child will play and develop.”

The setting invests heavily in Continuous Professional Development for its staff, with many of its employees studying for or obtained degree level qualifications. As a minimum, all staff are qualified to Level 3. To maintain the high standards set by the setting, the management is exploring quality assurance methods. Business and financial



skills are not forgotten, with a three year business plan in place, guiding the setting towards sustainability and security for its future.

The setting has recently been judged good by Ofsted with much evidence of outstanding practice

Contact details

Jacqueline Mason
Woodside Primary School
Gittin Street
Oswestry
Shropshire
SY11 1DT

Email: start@oswestry-pri.shropshire.sch.uk