

# Inspection of Side By Side

Silverdale Court, Silverdale Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 6EH

---

Inspection date: 10 November 2022

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>
The quality of education	<b>Outstanding</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Outstanding</b>
Personal development	<b>Outstanding</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Outstanding</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is outstanding**

Children really thrive at this nursery, which is described by the management as a multi-needs setting. The well-being of staff and children is a continual high priority. For example, children access relaxation therapies on a daily basis which help to manage any anxiety. Children demonstrate a strong sense of pride and belonging within the nursery. They are highly confident and independent learners who are supported by enthusiastic staff. This results in children being extremely resilient individuals who persist at activities when challenges occur.

Staff respond to children's needs with the utmost respect and clearly thought-out strategies. This builds on the already strong connection between children and their key person. Managers and staff tailor the settling-in process to children's individual needs. They go above and beyond to get to know children and families amazingly well from the outset. This includes creating an interest drawer based on the children's individual interests.

Leaders and staff have high aspirations for children and communication and language is a vital part of the curriculum. Knowledgeable staff have identified different starting points for children within communication and language and have highly successful strategies in place. For example, visual timetables and cards support children in developing their understanding of routine-based events. A strong focus on communication ensures all children, including the very youngest and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), make rapid progress.

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

- Management and staff work closely with parents and other professionals to develop a systematic approach to intervention and transitions for all children. For example, parents whose children have SEND receive support in completing necessary paperwork in anticipation for the transition to school.
- The nursery is highly inclusive. An abundance of initiatives to support children with SEND are in place. They benefit from high-quality, one-to-one teaching interventions. This ensures that all children receive the best possible outcomes and make excellent progress in their development.
- The care provided for all children is exceptional. Staff take great care to find out as much as they can about the children's likes, needs and family backgrounds. They do this through trusting partnerships with parents and close relationships with professional agencies. Every achievement is celebrated, with staff showing genuine delight at any progress children make.
- Children are central to the setting's ethos and the curriculum is built around the children's interests and developmental needs. For example, children currently

have a strong interest in music and dance, which has been given particular focus within the current planning. Children thoroughly enjoy selecting songs to listen to as they play. This is extended into the outdoor area where materials have been set up for children to create their own instruments. Staff have also created a stage for children to put on their own performances.

- Routines are flexible and staff's management of them is skilful and enthusiastic. Children are motivated and exceptionally well engaged. As a result, learning is embedded extremely well.
- Parent partnerships are exceptional and excellent support is provided to extend home learning. Management and staff recognise the wider needs of the family and go over and above to provide support. For example, they organise coffee mornings to allow parents to share experiences and widen their support network. They ensure parents are fully involved in their child's learning from the start and share detailed information, both verbally and online, about their child's progress. Parents report very positively on the extremely responsive and approachable staff and management team and how grateful they are for the support they receive.
- Management provide a programme of bespoke training and support for staff. They fully support staff to follow their professional interests and provide them with extensive opportunities to extend their knowledge and skills. This training has enabled the staff to be incredibly knowledgeable about early education, and highly reflective of their practice as a team.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding knowledge is incredibly strong with both management and staff. Recruitment is robust and all staff are suitably vetted to work with children. Management have ensured that staff have extensive training to be vigilant for various types of child protection matters, including the 'Prevent' duty and female genital mutilation. Management and staff fully understand the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child or colleague. The culture of safeguarding within the nursery is excellent. Managers make extensive efforts to ensure all children, including the most vulnerable, are supported to understand and express consent.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2593375
<b>Local authority</b>	Staffordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10251308
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	42
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	55
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sidebyside Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2593372
<b>Telephone number</b>	01782960877
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Side By Side registered in September 2020 and is located in Newcastle-under-Lyme. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Katy Humpage

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 setting.
- The management team and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about their key roles and responsibilities at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with both managers, one being the setting's nominated person.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery management team and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2022