



Impact report 2016

Introduction

7

Throughout 2015/16, Big Life Nurseries ran **7** nurseries across Manchester: Burnage; Cheetham Hill; Gorton; Longsight, Moss Side; Rusholme; and Slade Lane.

650

650 children used our nurseries. **169** free nursery education funded places were provided for two year-olds from the most disadvantaged families.

17

A total of **17** children with special educational needs received support, including referrals to speech and language specialists, behaviour and sensory support.

6

This year, **six** nurseries were inspected by Ofsted, and all of them were rated good.





“Our Facebook page is liked by **400** people, giving parents and families the chance to see updates on their child’s experience and leave their feedback.

My son attends the Slade Lane nursery. He absolutely loves it and would go on the weekends as well if he could! The staff are kind, welcoming and friendly and they manage to have the right balance of both professionalism and family homely friendliness. I am so happy that my son attends this nursery. Samantha Brooks, parent”

Development



33 different languages are spoken across the nurseries. On average, **83%** of children attending a Big Life Nurseries made significant progress, based on their starting point.

At the end of the year, **255** children left our nurseries to go to school. Of these, **77%** were on or above target in terms of their expected level of development.

In Longsight, our nursery is based on the same site as Longsight Community Primary School, and three year-olds experience aspects of school life including lunchtimes and using the library. Here, **92%** of children go to school on or above target for their expected level of development.

Crèche

Our crèche service was used by parents more than **4,000** times across Manchester, enabling them to access a range of training, courses and services.





Our staff

More than **50%** of our childcare staff live within three miles of where they work. **41** staff are multilingual, speaking languages, including Bengali, French, Arabic, Polish and Portuguese.

Hola!

Hi!

ਸਤ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਕਾਲ

Salam!

嗨

Nǐ Hǎo

Cześć!

70 childcare staff are qualified to a Level 2 or more, **79%** of whom have a Level 3 childcare qualification.

Big Life Nurseries supported **4** volunteers, **4** apprentices and **25** student placements. One of our volunteers is now employed in the crèche.



James was referred to Big Life Nurseries from a local outreach team, who work with children with special educational needs.

When he arrived, James had no means of verbal communication, and was very distressed by the space and noise of the nursery environment, covering his ears up and flapping his arms.

At first, a dedicated support worker was always nearby for reassurance, and we took the settling-in process step by step, gradually increasing the length of time James stayed, until eventually he was attending his full sessions.

Once he had fully settled into nursery, the additional support James received was reduced, but his key worker had a special educational programme to work on with him to support his development.

James now has a diagnosis of autism with communication delay. We worked with his family and outside agencies, making referrals to support James's progression through accessing a speech and language specialist and an educational psychologist.

James' development has progressed hugely, he can now hold a conversation, has a close group of friends and loves coming to nursery; he joins in group activities and enjoys new experiences.

James has been with us over a year now and will be leaving soon to attend school. When he first came to us, it was thought that he would need to go to a specialist school, but with the progress he has made it has been agreed that, with some added support, he will flourish in mainstream school.

**Names have been changed in this case study*

