

Little Lingfields Limited

Little Lingfields, 9 Lingfield Point, Darlington, DL1 1RW



Inspection date	18 August 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff fully understand how young babies and children learn and they effectively build on their interests and enthusiasm for learning. Children's development is regularly assessed by staff, who provide a variety of interesting activities for children.
- Children make good progress from when they start at the nursery. Their progress is carefully tracked to identify any gaps in their achievements. Any children requiring additional support are promptly identified and effectively supported.
- Children are very happy and well settled. The highly effective key-person system takes account of children's preferences. This helps ensure that their emotional well-being is effectively nurtured.
- Staff work closely with parents to support children's learning and development. Parents share information about children's achievements at home. They regularly borrow resources, such as books, from the nursery to support their child's learning at home.
- Partnerships working with professionals and other providers are very strong. Information about children's care and learning is shared in great detail. This helps to promote a continuous approach to children's learning and care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff solve children's problems too readily without giving them time to think of solutions for themselves.
- There is not always a highly focused targeted programme for the professional development of all staff, in order to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to have more time to think of solutions to problems they encounter
- build on the programme of continuous professional development, so that the quality of teaching is constantly improving.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and provider have clear procedures in place that all staff fully understand. They recognise their responsibility to protect children from harm and know what action to take if they have a concern about a child or adult. All staff are well qualified. The manager monitors the quality of the provision. Staff have one-to-one supervision meetings with the manager and regular team meetings. These help to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities. Systems for self-evaluation are good. The provider and manager know exactly what action needs to be taken to make sustained improvements to the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's learning and development are promoted well. The range of activities and resources helps children remain engaged and focused on what they are doing for periods of time. The nursery has invested in the outdoor area, which provides children with a well resourced and exciting area. This supports children who prefer to learn outside extremely well. Staff gather information about what children already know and make accurate observations and assessments. They use these to plan for the next steps in their learning. Staff demonstrate good interactions with children, which help to support children's communication and language skills. They engage positively in children's play and activities, consistently enhancing children's learning opportunities. Staff interactions are particularly strong with the youngest children. For example, staff repeat simple phrases and words which help children develop clear patterns of speech. Staff manage the move to school well. They liaise effectively with parents and the school teachers to encourage a continued approach to children's ongoing learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well and build positive, affectionate relationships with the adults who care for them. Children behave very well. Staff are deployed well throughout the nursery and promote an ethos of mutual respect. They reinforce good manners and they encourage children to take turns and listen to each other. Children receive a healthy and nutritious diet. Staff talk to children about the importance of healthy food and exercise. Children have daily access to the outdoor garden, where they learn to take controlled risks on the climbing frame. Staff provide a range of activities that help children learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in all areas of development from their starting points. This includes children who benefit from funded education and those with English as an additional language. Children are enthusiastic and develop confidence in their own abilities. They learn to manage their own care needs and enjoy the responsibility of small tasks. Babies express delight as they explore sensory objects. Older children are developing key skills in literacy. For example, they can identify letters and enjoy listening to stories. Children are successfully acquiring the key skills they need to move on to the next stage of their learning or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY491829
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1021977
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	59
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Little Lingfields Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904374
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01325 354930

Little Lingfields Limited was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children

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