

Little Learners Nursery

Total Fitness, Prenton Way, North Cheshire Trading Estate, PRENTON, Merseyside, CH43 3DU



Inspection date

10 April 2018

Previous inspection date

8 December 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 use their good knowledge of how children learn to engage them in an exciting range of activities and experiences. All children make good progress in their learning.
- Children behave well. Staff gently remind them to share and take turns. Children, including babies, form warm attachments. Older children play cooperatively and respect the needs of others.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. The provider makes good use of local networks to work with professionals to develop individual plans to support children's speech and physical development.
- The education programme is rich and varied and the provider regularly reviews and evaluates it. This helps to ensure that it is fun and challenging for the different groups of children attending. Children are motivated. They enjoy being creative in imaginary games of shopping, pretend tea parties and well-resourced craft activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not organise resources highly effectively to help further promote children's involvement in planned activities.
- Although the provider has improved the professional development programme for staff, it is new and they do not effectively monitor it to ensure staff consistently implement learning from training when engaging with children during activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- organise resources more effectively and help all children to be fully involved in planned activities
- enhance the arrangements for the professional development of staff to monitor its effectiveness and how well staff implement their learning from training when engaging with the children.

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 area manager.
- The inspector talked to the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection and met with the provider and managers.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children from information in the nursery's records and by talking to some parents.

Inspector

Mary Wignall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection and wider safeguarding issues. The provider prioritises training on safeguarding and makes sure staff know and understand local referral details. Staff supervise children well and teach them how to stay safe and healthy. Risk assessments, including daily checks, are effective in helping to keep the premises clean and secure. Staff are motivated. They are enthused by the new training programme. The new structure of professional support from within and external to the nursery is in the early stages and beginning to have some impact on improving quality. The provider carefully monitors staff assessments of children's learning, to ensure their accuracy and effectiveness in helping all children to make the most of their learning opportunities. This includes those who have special educational needs. Effective self-evaluation includes parents' views for change.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have fully embraced new ways to plan for children's learning. They focus on identifying and planning for children's next steps in learning. They record and share information about children's learning targets with other staff and parents. This supports consistency in children's learning and effectively involves parents in their child's learning. Staff confidently use a range of good teaching techniques. They ask challenging questions to encourage children to think deeply. Children conduct experiments with water, coloured sweets and bath bombs. Staff ask children about what they think may happen next and why. All children enjoy stories and spend time talking with staff. Staff remind younger children to sit and listen. They point to their ears and make good use of simple sign language to gain children's attention.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is strong. Children form secure relationships with staff, who know them well. This helps to create a homely and positive play and learning environment. Parents particularly appreciate how staff seek their views and plan consistent care routines. Staff sensitively teach children about safety. They swiftly intervene to divert unwanted behaviour from younger children and move activities on in a positive way. Older children demonstrate a good understanding of safety. They place their chairs carefully under the table and move to avoid collisions as they play actively. Older children demonstrate good self-care skills. They pour water from jugs and dress themselves appropriately for outdoor or messy play. Children happily play actively indoors and outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills necessary for the next stage of their learning, including school. Children communicate well as they talk and join in activities with staff. They are motivated and show persistence as they count, play with electronic toys and explore. All children enjoy making marks in a variety of ways. Younger children enjoy the sensory experience of paint and sand. Older children happily choose to draw pictures and shapes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448921
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1133944
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	74
Number of children on roll	157
Name of registered person	Little Learners Nursery School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902342
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2016
Telephone number	01516094631

Little Learners Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 31 members of childcare staff. Of these, 27 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. Three members of staff hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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