

Little Foxes (Wigan) Ltd

Iona House, Billinge Road, Wigan, Lancashire, WN3 6BL



Inspection date	30 March 2017
Previous inspection date	8 May 2014

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

- The dedicated and passionate leadership team provides a warm and welcoming environment for children to enjoy. Children confidently demonstrate that they are active learners and independently choose what they would like to do. Overall, they enjoy all aspects of nursery life.
- Staff effectively use their observations and assessments of children's learning to identify next steps in their development. They provide a rich and diverse programme of activities and experiences that ignite children's passion for learning.
- Staff foster good working relationships with parents. Parents are encouraged to share their observations, and staff give ideas to extend children's learning at home. For example, families are invited to borrow resources and attend 'stay and play' sessions.
- The manager and leadership team use rigorous self-evaluation strategies effectively to identify strengths in practice and areas for improvement. They constantly strive to ensure they are providing the best possible care and education for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not give children sufficient time to respond and consolidate their thinking and ideas.
- Occasionally, staff do not organise activities as well as possible to help maximise opportunities for all children to get involved and engage fully in the learning experience.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance teaching skills, particularly so that staff provide children with appropriate time to answer questions and develop their thinking skills
- consider the organisation and timing of some activities to engage and motivate children fully in the learning opportunities offered.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and area manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector had a tour of the setting.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a sound knowledge of their role in protecting children. They attend regular training and engage in reflective practice to consolidate their understanding. Robust security procedures are in place and staff carry out meticulous risk assessments, which contribute to children's safety. The manager conducts purposeful supervision meetings and carries out observations of staff practice. Staff have frequent opportunities to develop their skills through a wealth of training opportunities. The management team undertakes rigorous monitoring of children's progress. For example, they constantly track children's learning and analyse data, using this information to help improve the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Staff are skilled in planning for children's individual needs and interests. Staff encourage babies to explore a range of sensory activities. They model how to scoop the sand, and how to fill and pour when playing at the water tray. Staff engage well with toddlers, for example, they support them to build towers, and to create pictures using paint and a variety of tools. Older children delight in creative opportunities. They enjoy using play dough and paint and are sensitively supported by staff who talk to them about what they are making. Children concentrate well, such as when listening to stories, and enthusiastically join in the actions of their favourite songs. They develop an understanding of early mathematics; for example, they group objects together and calculate when they add one more or take one away.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff gather detailed information from parents when children first start. This helps children to build warm, strong relationships with staff and they settle quickly. Staff nurture children's emotional well-being. For example, they display their art work along with photographs of them engaged in an abundance of activities, to help increase their sense of belonging and contribute to their high self-esteem. Children develop good social skills and staff encourage them to share and take turns. Children's behaviour is good. Children understand and follow rules and help to tidy away toys. They follow good hygiene procedures and learn the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children have plentiful opportunities to develop their physical skills in the well-resourced outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need in readiness for the next stage in their learning. They show increasing independence, for instance, they put on their coats and manage their self-care needs. Children make marks for a purpose and are becoming confident communicators. They show high levels of perseverance and develop a 'can do' attitude.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297752
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1087956
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 - 4
Total number of places	116
Number of children on roll	127
Name of registered person	Little Foxes (Wigan) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP525180
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2014
Telephone number	01942 227972

Little Foxes (Wigan) Ltd registered in 2004. It is situated in the Highfield area of Wigan. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including three at level 2, 11 at level 3, one at level 4 and one at level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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