

Little Angels Childcare

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School, Rossall Grove, Little Sutton,
ELLESMERE PORT, CH66 1NN



Inspection date

9 May 2017

Previous inspection date

14 January 2015

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

- Managers and staff have maintained good standards since the last inspection. They show a strong commitment to delivering a quality service for children and their families.
- Staff create a calm, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. They form close and supportive relationships with the children, which helps them to feel happy, safe and well cared for.
- Staff make good use of their qualifications to support children's care and learning well. Children make good progress in all areas of their development.
- Links with the host school are particularly strong, helping to promote a smooth move for children when they are ready to go to school.
- Engagement with parents is effective. Ongoing communication enables parents to feel well informed and involved in their children's learning. Parents say, 'Staff make children feel instantly at home in a creative, secure and caring environment'.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not introduce adult-led activities well enough so that children fully understand what is expected of them.
- Outdoor space is developing, but does not currently offer an extensive range of opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve the organisation of some adult-led activities to help children understand expectations and gain the most from their learning experience
- extend play experiences to further enrich the all-round achievements of those children who enjoy learning outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nominated person.
- The inspector held a meeting with both managers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jan Lindsell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers strive to do better and seek new ways of working to help improve outcomes for children. Self-reflection is encouraged and staff receive regular supervision to help them strengthen their skills. Staff engage in further training that is relevant and beneficial to their current practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children are well supervised and the premises are safe and secure. Staff are trained in the procedures to safeguard children from harm. They understand their responsibility to be vigilant and report any concerns promptly. Managers use effective monitoring tools to support key persons, in order to identify and address any gaps in children's learning. They meet regularly with the school Reception class teacher to review children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how to promote children's learning and use robust systems to accurately assess children's skills. Overall, staff organise the routine well, so that children are constantly engaged in purposeful and challenging activities. The environment is frequently adapted to meet children's changing needs and interests. Resources are plentiful and easily accessible so that children can make independent choices. Staff ask meaningful questions that encourage children to think and share their ideas. They help children who speak English as an additional language to build their confidence and learn new words. Parents receive daily updates, termly reports and access valuable information about their children's progress through the online system.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff give priority to ensuring children's happiness. For example, they respond quickly if children need cuddles and reassurance. Children receive good levels of attention and support. This enables close attachments to flourish. Staff talk to children about the importance of handwashing and they consistently follow hygienic procedures, for example, when changing children's nappies. Children bring a packed lunch or choose to have a hot meal provided by the school. They eat healthy snacks and enjoy plenty of opportunities to be active outdoors. Children learn to manage their own safety, for example, when they take supervised risks on the climbing equipment. They behave very well, for instance, they sit and listen attentively to stories read by staff.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are motivated to play, explore and learn. They eagerly engage in activities that help them to gain the skills they need to become ready for school. Children develop their confidence, independence and learn to follow instructions. They enjoy new discoveries, for instance, using shaving foam and food colouring. They concentrate well on board games that promote their understanding of numbers and counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356060
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	1093069
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	2 - 8
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Little Angels Pre-School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP527042
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2015
Telephone number	0151 3382430

Little Angels Childcare registered in 2007. The setting employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one at level 2, nine at level 3 and one with early years professional status. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, during term time and school holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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