

Little Oaks Of Accrington Private Day Nursery

10 Cannon Street, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 1NJ



Inspection date	31 October 2017
Previous inspection date	14 May 2013

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 manager is passionate about providing the best for children who attend the nursery. Staff are dedicated and benefit from strong leadership and good commitment to continual improvement.
- The key-person system is effective. Children share strong emotional attachments with staff. They look to staff to share their experiences with.
- Staff prioritise children's emotional well-being. They listen to parents' guidance and follow the familiar routines of babies. Staff make subtle adjustments to help children to feel settled when they begin to attend.
- Good two-way communication is established between parents and staff. Parents are kept well informed about children's development. Children make good progress.
- The manager uses information gathered about the progress of individuals and groups of children effectively. She puts good strategies in place to support children and accurately prioritises areas for the development of the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice is not rigorous enough to identify small inconsistencies in the quality of teaching and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the monitoring of staff practice and more accurately identify aspects of teaching and learning that are not yet at the highest level.

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 jointly evaluated a teaching activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to the area manager, the safeguarding and compliance officer, some children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lisa Bolton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of what to do if they are concerned about the welfare of a child. The manager has introduced innovative procedures to ensure that staff knowledge about safeguarding is up to date. Children are consistently well supervised and staffing ratios are maintained. Staff have a good focus on ensuring necessary safety procedures are undertaken to reduce hazards to children. Regular staff supervision takes place and opportunities to discuss children's welfare and progress are frequent. Recruitment and induction procedures are extremely good and staff training is readily available. Management have a very proactive approach and promptly attend to any issues that may arise. The manager is well supported by the management network within the nursery chain. Self-evaluation is effective and takes into account the views of parents, children and staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are nurturing and interact well with children. They provide quality sensory experiences to fascinate babies. Children are encouraged to follow their own ideas and use their imaginations in play. Observation, assessment and planning systems are flexible and take account of children's changing needs and interests. Staff plan good-quality learning experiences and entice children to join in. They are also skilled in extending children's learning through unexpected opportunities that arise during play. Staff and the manager monitor children's progress effectively and work with parents and external agencies to meet their precise needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to understand how to manage their feelings and children behave well. Lunchtimes are calm and social learning experiences. Children are encouraged to be independent according to their ages and stages of development. For example, babies learn how to use cutlery and older children serve their own pasta and pour their own water. Children use very good manners and staff praise them for their politeness. Staff have clear routines for children's self-care and children learn about good hygiene practices. Children can explain that they are washing their hands to get rid of germs. Staff are attentive to children's care needs and nappy changing procedures are hygienic.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy attending the nursery. They are attentive and respond well to staff. Children enjoy being physically active outdoors and particularly enjoy playing in the undercover adventure zone. They adore exploratory activities. For example, babies delight in using their senses to explore ice and sand. Older children become enthralled in hunting for mini-beasts outdoors. Children quickly grow to become independent with the positive encouragement of staff. They attempt to dress themselves in preparation for outdoor play. Children are motivated to carry out self-care tasks by themselves. For example, young children learn to wipe their own faces after lunchtime. They gain the key skills needed to be ready for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309306
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1063963
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	63
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	First Class Child Care Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520705
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2013
Telephone number	01254 390 107

Little Oaks of Accrington Private Day Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. 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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