

Little Learners Nursery School



Inside Total Fitness, 53 Liverpool Rd, Chester, Cheshire CH2 1AQ

Inspection date	8 August 2018
Previous inspection date	22 February 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4

Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The new manager has implemented rigorous monitoring procedures to ensure the nursery continually complies with the requirements of their registration. She and the provider have high expectations for staff and an ambitious vision for the future of the nursery.
- Staff are well qualified and well supported. Leaders provide regular feedback and good professional development opportunities to enhance staff's knowledge and skills.
- Children enjoy attending this setting. They settle in quickly and form good relationships with staff, which supports their emotional development effectively.
- Staff monitor children's progress successfully and quickly identify children who may require additional support, to close any gaps in learning effectively. All children progress well from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not always plan focused activities meticulously enough to ensure they are consistently providing highly effective learning experiences for all children.
- Sometimes, some staff do not make effective use of opportunities to extend children's thinking skills and build on what children already know.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan focused activities more meticulously to consistently provide highly effective learning experiences for each child
- enhance the strategies staff use to fully extend children's thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childcare purposes.
- The inspector spoke with parents and reviewed their written feedback.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors. She spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, policies and evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector held a meeting with the leadership team to discuss matters relating to leadership and management.

Inspector

Lauren Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Staff work very well in partnership with parents and other professionals. Parents speak very highly of the nursery staff and the resources they provide to support parents with their children's learning and development. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have completed training to underpin their knowledge of safeguarding and wider child protection issues. Since the last inspection, leaders have taken effective action to reduce the number of children in each room, to help ensure they meet children's needs successfully. Staff deploy themselves effectively to maintain good standards of care and to help keep children safe from harm. Staff use risk assessment effectively to quickly identify and minimise hazards within the nursery environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have created an interesting learning environment where children independently access toys and resources. Staff observe and assess children's progress regularly and provide developmentally appropriate and stimulating learning experiences. Babies thoroughly enjoy engaging in sensory and physical play. They begin to develop good hand-to-eye coordination as they wave streamers and explore different materials, such as foil and mesh. Young children play imaginatively. They practise bathing the dolls with soap and feeding them real foods. Staff working with the older children provide good support to develop children's early writing skills. For example, they help children to develop their large- and small-muscle movements by tracing letters with their fingers on a large screen.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a good understanding of how to provide effective care and supervision for children around meal and sleep times. Staff working with babies, for example, follow babies individual sleep routines, ensuring that they feed them prior to placing them in a cot for sleep time. Children and staff socialise during mealtimes. Children are encouraged to follow hygiene routines and eat a balanced diet. Staff promote diversity effectively. They provide opportunities for children to explore their own cultural backgrounds, as well as other languages and areas of the local community. Staff have a strong focus on promoting children's emotional welfare and helping them to manage their feelings successfully.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points. Older children respond well to adults' instructions and younger children quickly develop a good understanding of turn taking. Children grow in self-confidence and independence. They serve their own meals and undertake small tasks for staff. Children feel pride in their achievements and learn a wide range of skills, which prepares them well for the next stages of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490294
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10056977
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	135
Name of registered person	Nursery Schools Europe Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902341
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2018
Telephone number	01244 421564

Little Learners Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery employs 28 members of childcare staff. Of these, 25 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, excluding bank holidays. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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