

First Learners' Nursery

St. John Ambulance HQ, Broomfield Crescent, FOLKESTONE, Kent CT19 4DE



Inspection date	11 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff get to know the children and their individual personalities well. Children have a good sense of belonging, and positive levels of well-being and self-esteem.
- All staff establish positive partnerships with parents and help keep them fully involved and informed in their children's learning. For example, they regularly share children's achievements and activity ideas to experience at home.
- The manager and staff effectively review their practice. For example, they evaluate the day's events and consider how well they motivated children to learn. Staff use their findings to support their future performance and activity plans.
- Children develop a good understanding of the importance of healthy eating. For instance, they are keen to harvest their own healthy produce for snacks, such as cherries.
- There are good opportunities for children to investigate. For example, they participate in simple experiments, as they explore how to 'free' toy superheroes from blocks of ice.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their mathematical skills. Younger children count with confidence and older children confidently complete simple sums.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to extend children's interest in their early writing, to gain more skills to support their future learning even further.
- Staff do not consistently organise larger group activities effectively to ensure that they fully engage children in their learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's opportunities to gain more early writing skills to support their future learning more consistently
- review and improve the organisation of larger group activities to ensure that they keep children of all ages fully engaged in their learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents and staff, and considered their views
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the consistency of care and teaching that staff provide for children. For example, she observes staff teach children daily and provides them with helpful advice to support their future performance. Staff are keen to build on their skills and knowledge even further. For example, they have learned about the different ways to support children to manage their emotions appropriately. The manager and staff have used additional funding well to support children's learning needs. For instance, they have purchased training and resources to develop children's good communication skills. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and all staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. Staff teach children how to remain safe. For example, they learn how to cross the road safely on regular walks in the community.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor and track individual and groups of children's progress. This enables them to highlight any gaps in development promptly and provide good support to help close them quickly. Staff establish positive partnerships with other settings that children also attend. For instance, they regularly share children's achievements. This helps to provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared care and learning experiences. Staff effectively support children to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, older children recognise simple words and younger children recognise letters. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoy a story about a stick person, go on to collect sticks and make their own stick characters to bring their imaginations alive as they retell the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are polite and behave well. They are confident to communicate. For example, children are keen to take home 'Pansy' the toy panda and excitedly share their stories with their friends back at the pre-school. Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they build and negotiate obstacles confidently, as they balance and climb on crates and stepping stones. Children have good opportunities to learn about other people's similarities and differences. For instance, they learn about different cultures as they dress in Indian saris and try traditional delicacies, such as Turkish soup.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress and gain strong skills to support their future learning. For example, they develop secure social skills and are happy to play together and help each other complete tasks. Children are creative and confident to express themselves freely. For example, they explore paint in interesting ways, such as using carrots and potatoes to make marks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY535728
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10076707
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	First Learners Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP535727
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01303 277886

First Learners' Nursery registered in 2016. It is located in Folkestone, Kent. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.15pm, term time only. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs five members of staff, all of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2 or 3.

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