

Early Learners Nursery Ltd

20 Deacon Road, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 6ED



Inspection date	1 November 2018
Previous inspection date	13 August 2015

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

- Management systems for the recruitment and induction of staff are strong.
- Staff regularly observe and assess children's development. They use what they know to plan a range of interesting and stimulating activities.
- Staff support children who have special educational needs very well. They work closely with parents to gain an understanding of children's individual needs.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are supported to develop their communication skills. For example, staff use pictures to support children's understanding of new concepts.
- The key-person system is strong. Well-organised processes are in place to support children's needs as they move throughout the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team is not using information gathered from children's assessments precisely enough, to improve learning opportunities for children.
- Staff attend training opportunities, but these are not consistently targeted on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the use of assessment and evaluation when tracking children's progress, to help identify and address any common gaps in their learning
- strengthen processes of performance management to identify targeted training opportunities to raise the quality of teaching further.

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 had a tour of the setting.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents at appropriate times and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including children's development records, safeguarding documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

Inspector

Kerry Maddock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a good understanding of possible concerns about children's welfare. They are confident in their knowledge of reporting procedures. The provider and manager are vigilant. They work with external agencies to ensure that children are not exposed to unsafe situations. The provider is ambitious. The leadership team works together to plan and implement improvements, to ensure that children continue to benefit from good learning opportunities. Staff provide opportunities for parents to participate in their children's learning. For example, parents enjoy the regular stay-and-play sessions. They are very complimentary and praise the quality care and welcoming ethos of the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Highly qualified staff observe and assess children's development regularly. They use this information to provide a range of interesting activities that encourages creativity and critical thinking. For example, older children speak confidently about colour, texture and shape as they make paint using slices of beetroot. Children of all ages enjoy exploring books and reading stories. They choose from a wide range of easily accessible reading materials. Staff carefully build on children's interests and discuss the features of books, to make the most of the learning opportunities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models. They consistently praise children's positive and good behaviour. There are effective strategies to support those children who need more guidance. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment that thoroughly meets children's needs. Independence skills are supported well. For example, at lunchtime children are encouraged to wash their hands before serving their own food. Staff encourage children to try new types of food and make healthy choices. Staff are aware of children's individual dietary needs and preferences. There are systems to ensure all children can eat safely. Children enjoy their time outside and make the most of the spacious well-resourced environment, as they practise their good physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident communicators and enjoy learning through play. Older children are starting to recognise their names and letter sounds. They develop good early literacy skills. All children are motivated to learn. They revel in the many creative activities offered. For example, younger children enjoy exploring the textures, smells and colours of shaving foam and powder paint. Older children enjoy learning songs in preparation for their upcoming Christmas concert. All children make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next steps in learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303434
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10063146
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 - 11
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	115
Name of registered person	Early Learners Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907265
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2015
Telephone number	0151 424 2987

Early Learners Nursery Ltd registered in 1985. The nursery employs 21 members of staff, 18 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. Two members of staff hold qualified teacher status. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.00am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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