

Childlink Learning Centre

1-3 The Phygtle, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, SL9 0JT



Inspection date

23 February 2015

Previous inspection date

6 December 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are very settled and confident because all staff provide a nurturing and caring environment that effectively promotes their independence and well-being.
- All staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and have a secure understanding of how to safeguard children.
- Robust induction procedures and on-going staff performance monitoring means that staff feel well supported. This ensures positive outcomes for children.
- Staff implement effective individual planning to meet the needs and interests of children. As a result, activities are targeted, stimulating and exciting for children.
- Children's independence is well promoted in the thoughtfully planned environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, opportunities for the older children to become fully engaged in activities are disturbed by the younger children.
- On occasion, parents are not fully encouraged to share information about their child's learning at home, therefore, staff do not always build on children's interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review group activity time so that older children can become fully engaged in activities without being disturbed by younger children
- encourage parents to share their child's learning at home so staff can build on these interests in the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- The inspector had discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the staff's suitability, risk assessments, policies and the self-evaluation document.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with a member of staff.
- The inspector sampled children's observations, planning and assessment records.

Inspector
Clare Leake

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

All children are enthusiastic and happy in the setting because staff know them all well and greet them warmly. Staff demonstrate a secure understanding of how children can be supported through their play. A broad and interesting range of age-appropriate toys and resources are readily available for children to make their own choices. Babies' early communication skills are encouraged as staff sing songs, clapping their hands together and smiling, creating a sustained exchange where babies respond and copy. Children of differing ages play together and interact happily with one another. However, on occasion, the older children are disturbed as younger children want to join in, meaning they cannot always get engrossed in the activity. Staff sensitively join in with children's play to extend their learning by skilfully questioning children and introducing new words. For example, children make a French restaurant and staff support this by providing appropriate music and introducing new foods. Parents are welcomed into the setting and speak highly of it. Staff make regular observations and assessments of children, and parents are asked to contribute to their children's records on occasion. However, this is not consistent which means that staff sometimes miss opportunities to further develop children's home learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff provide a warm, friendly and welcoming environment, which means children feel secure and settle well. Children have access to a well-resourced indoor and outdoor environment and move between them freely, developing their independence. As children play outside they learn to manage risks and develop a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Children confidently pour their own drinks and serve themselves nutritious snacks and lunch, supported by staff who praise their efforts making children feel valued. This helps children to form attachments with their peers and understand what behaviour is acceptable. Staff model positive behaviour and encourage good social skills, such as sharing and taking turns.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The strong management team and staff have a comprehensive understanding of their roles and responsibilities to meet requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Thorough induction procedures are implemented well to ensure that all staff are aware of their individual responsibilities and they are continually monitored to enhance their skills and knowledge. Staff attend regular training to improve their skills and to ensure their robust understanding of safeguarding procedures. There are well documented plans for continuous improvement that involve staff as well as parents. Consequently, children are well supported to make good progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107980
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	987815
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	Lynn Kirby & Julia Wilkinson Partnership
Date of previous inspection	6 December 2010
Telephone number	01494 871908

Childlink Learning Centre opened in 1992. The nursery operates from a building that has been purposely adapted to provide nursery care and it is situated on the edge of the village of Chalfont St Peter in the Buckinghamshire. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language. It opens five days a week for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. There are currently 12 staff members employed to work directly with the children and a cook. Nine staff members hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or above.

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