

Little Oaks Day Nursery

Maple Road, Enigma Business Park, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 1GQ



Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

9 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Key persons and parents successfully work together to settle children when they start to move within the nursery. Children quickly develop a sense of belonging and grow in confidence. Kind, attentive staff reassure and encourage them and ensure their interests and favourite activities are followed up. Children are given plenty of time to get to know staff and other children in their new rooms.
- Staff have high expectations of children. They plan varied and exciting activities at the nursery and elsewhere, including opportunities for children to take part in gymnastics, music and dance lessons and a wide range of interesting visits. These enhance children's listening, attention and expressive language, challenge their physical skills and extend their imagination and creativity.
- Babies and children are safeguarded. The provider, managers and staff are extremely well trained, knowledgeable and vigilant. They take prompt, appropriate action to minimise the risks of harm to children and work conscientiously with other agencies to support vulnerable families.
- Very good links with local schools promote continuity and smooth transitions for children starting school. Key persons ensure Reception class teachers are well informed about children's abilities and learning priorities and have opportunities to meet children at nursery.
- Exemplary partnerships with other agencies ensure early intervention and extremely effective support for children with developmental delay, disabilities or who speak English as an additional language.
- Exceptional relationships with parents ensure comprehensive information sharing between them and the nursery about children's care, activities and achievements. The provider, managers, staff and parents very successfully plan how they will consistently meet children's care, learning and development needs at nursery and at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance already excellent teaching to help young children to make connections between their imaginative and creative play, and real objects and events.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in six playrooms and in the outdoor play areas. She carried out joint observations with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times. She held meetings with the provider, manager and deputy manager and spoke to three other professionals who work with the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their written feedback to the provider.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plans.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She also looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

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

Staff understand precisely how well children are progressing. They complete thorough assessments and welcome the views of parents and professionals involved in children's learning. They use this information to skilfully plan and organise rich, rewarding activities that promote children's purposeful learning and rapid progress. The staff's excellent teaching inspires children to take part and persevere. They adeptly interact with babies and children, helping them to be confident, attentive and resourceful learners. Consequently, children are very well prepared for school. They have an excellent grounding in early mathematics and literacy. Children confidently identify and use numbers for counting, comparing and problem solving. They enjoy songs and stories, increasingly recognise and use initial letters and sounds and practise early writing. Children develop a sound understanding of cause, effect and change as they observe, explore and experiment with a range of materials in the wonderful outdoor area.

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

Babies and children flourish and soon settle in the extremely safe, inviting surroundings. They are very well cared for by attentive staff who conscientiously meet children's care, health and dietary needs. Staff expertly promote children's awareness of health and safety. Children thoroughly enjoy growing and eating fruit and vegetables. They relish outdoor play and being active. Staff adeptly develop babies' growing mobility and children competently balance, climb and move when using an extensive range of apparatus. Children behave safely and sensibly as they move around the building, use tools, such as scissors and equipment, and take part in walks and outings. Staff skilfully promote babies' and children's confidence, independence and positive relationships. They consistently praise and celebrate children's efforts and achievements so they want to do well. Relaxed mealtimes provide valuable opportunities for children to make choices, develop their independent skills and to socialise with other children and staff.

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

The provider, managers and staff are passionate about offering children and families a high-quality nursery provision. Robust staff performance and development procedures ensure staff are very well qualified and have the skills to help children to thrive and excel. The quality of teaching and care is outstanding. The provider and managers astutely check the impact of their practice and of procedures on children's well-being and learning. They also act on parents' and children's views to make well-targeted improvements. For instance, parents really appreciate the variety of methods used for exchanging information with them about their children's routines, activities and achievements. Thorough monitoring of children's progress ensures gaps in their development or activities are swiftly addressed. For instance, after staff attended relevant training children's attainment in mathematics and technology improved. The provider intends to provide more resources to help young children make connections between their imaginary play and real things.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY415227
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	850031
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	99
Number of children on roll	139
Name of provider	LODN Ltd
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2010
Telephone number	01684 771080

Little Oaks Day Nursery was registered in 2010. The nursery employs 28 members of childcare staff. The provider has Qualified Teacher Status, the deputy manager has Early Years Professional status and 22 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 5. The nursery also employs an office administrator, chef and kitchen assistant. It opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Support is available for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. There are close links with several local schools.

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