

Little Munchkins

Silverthorne Close, STALYBRIDGE, Cheshire, SK15 2DQ



Inspection date	27 October 2015
Previous inspection date	24 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is good

- The leaders and managers have ambition and ensure that the setting continuously develops to improve outcomes for children. Staff are monitored well and attend training which they put into practice on a daily basis.
- Children have very secure relationships with their key people. There are a good range of resources, both indoors and outdoors which enable children to appreciate the diversity of the world they live in.
- There are a good range of resources. The quality of teaching is good and activities are well planned. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Teaching supports children to gain skills for independence. This ensures they are ready for the next stage of learning and prepares them for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is room to improve how staff question children to extend their learning
- Parents are kept up-to-date with their child's progress and development. This could be extended by ensuring that information in the assessment record, includes an indication whether children are meeting or exceeding expected levels of development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on current good practice by developing further, staffs questioning skills to deepen children's understanding of activities and challenge their learning
- further develop the progress information for parents, for example by indicating whether children are meeting the expected levels of development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's development files and observed children during their play.
- The inspector interviewed the manager and registered individual and reviewed a wide range of documentation, including planning and children's learning journeys
- The inspector interviewed the manager and staff about their understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and reviewed the settings action plans and self-evaluation form to establish the settings commitment to continuous improvement
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Frances Tranby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective due to staff having a good understanding of how to recognise and act on concerns such as abuse and neglect. Recruitment of staff is rigorous and the manager identifies the training needs of staff through regular supervision. The majority of staff have a child care qualification. This, combined with the up-to-date training staff receive, has a positive impact on their teaching. The management team have high expectations and drive improvement which has raised standards at the setting to a good level. This has been achieved by implementing action plans and rigorous self-evaluation which includes the views of staff and parents. Partnership with parents is a key strength of the setting. The management team has a good understanding of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. They monitor the implementation of educational programmes to ensure that it covers the seven areas of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The setting is very well resourced. Children learn to be independent by managing their personal needs and assisting with meal times. This supports school readiness. Staff gather information about what children already know through discussion with parents. However, information provided to parents on children's development does not currently include an indication whether children are meeting their expected levels. As a result, parents are not fully aware of where their child is at in their development. Staff interact well with children. However, they could make better use of questioning when carrying out activities with the children. For example, they could question children about the ingredients in the salad provided for lunch. The planning and learning environment promotes the seven areas of learning well. Children's individual learning needs are considered when planning activities and are based around the next steps in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's emotional well-being and know their key children well. This helps children to feel safe and secure. Children's transition to school is an exciting experience as teachers are invited to visit the setting and children visit linked schools. Some children continue to attend the settings before and after school club where they help to plan their activities. Behaviour is well managed and children demonstrate respect for each other. Displays and resources take into account diversity and reflect the wider community and cultures. The children experience healthy lifestyles and the setting is accredited with the local authority's nutrition and oral health programme. The Early Years Premium Funding is used well by the setting to obtain weekly health and fitness sessions. The setting also works well with other agencies such as the speech and language unit. Children attend on a regular basis and any absences are carefully monitored.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. Boys in particular now make better progress in reading and writing as a result of staff capturing their interests with individual activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441823
Local authority	Tameside
Inspection number	1030754
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	90
Name of provider	Little Munchkins Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2013
Telephone number	07747627565

Little Munchkins was registered in August 2012 and is the Early Years Register, the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. It is situated in the Stalybridge area of Cheshire. It is managed by one of the directors of The Little Munchkins LTD. There is an enclosed area available for outdoor play. The setting provides funded education for two-three- and four-year-olds. It is open from 7.30am until 6.00pm, Monday to Friday 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 18 members of staff, of whom 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. There are also 2 managers who hold appropriate early years and management qualifications.

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