Mini's Daycare

60 - 62 Lodge Street, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8XE



Inspection date	4 November 2015
Previous inspection date	2 October 2012

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	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 ability of the well-qualified manager to accurately identify the quality of practice across the nursery is a strength. Since the last inspection, management has made significant improvements to raise the quality of teaching and support for children's learning.
- Children behave well. Staff use effective strategies to motivate further learning and effectively support children to try out new experiences. They consistently recognise individual achievements and give children praise for their efforts.
- Children are developing good communication skills. Staff use additional strategies, such
 as gestures and picture cards, to help support development. Children who speak
 English as an additional language are well supported and make good progress.
- Staff provide an exciting and very well-resourced outdoor environment that effectively promotes children's learning. Great consideration has been given to keep children interested in the outdoor space and they explore and investigate with confidence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- When children first start, staff do not always collect information from parents in enough detail to help them build a picture of what their child can already do.
- Systems for monitoring staff performance are not yet sharply focused enough to raise children's achievements to the highest levels.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to further extend children's learning about the benefits of healthy eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the information gained from parents when children first start at the setting to help build a clear picture of what they can already do
- consider ways of extending staff supervision arrangements to include a sharper focus on enhancing the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- strengthen children's understanding of how nutritious foods contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jeanette Brookfield

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have secure knowledge of the procedures they would follow if they had concerns about a child or an issue with a member of staff's practice. Robust recruitment and induction procedures are established. The manager ensures all staff are vetted and checks that they remain suitable to work with children. Most staff are qualified and access further professional training to build on their knowledge and skills. Systems to evaluate what is working well and what needs to improve are effective and take into account the views of staff, parents and children. The manager keeps a close check on the progress of individual children and provides extra support for those with identified needs, to good effect. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals when supporting disabled children and those with special educational needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The qualified staff team provides good quality teaching for all children, including those who require additional support. As a result, all children are motivated, engaged and eager to investigate the environment around them. Staff recognise the importance of listening to children, allowing them time to think and respond to questions. Children enjoy applying mathematical concepts, such as numbers, as they count the steps while going downstairs to play outdoors. Staff successfully foster children's ability to engage in imaginative play, such as when they pretend to go to the cafe to drink tea. Parents feel they are well informed about their children's achievements and are supported to continue their learning at home. Staff have used their training to ensure assessments of children's development are accurate. Planning now ensures next steps in their learning are accurately identified. These changes have helped to considerably improve children's learning and support the development of essential skills for future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is given high priority. Caring and flexible relationships with key persons provide a secure base from which children learn and develop independence. Children confidently select their own toys and manage their own needs well, relative to their ages. They enjoy regular opportunities to be physically active. Children play outside every day and participate in music and dance sessions indoors. Transitions into and within the nursery are managed sensitively and in partnership with parents. Staff take effective steps to help prepare them well for these changes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's confidence and independence is promoted well in readiness for the move to school. They gain a sense of responsibility as they help with daily routines and learn to work together. Consequently, all children make good progress in their learning and are securing new skills more effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY439115

Local authority Lancashire

Inspection number 1027966

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 5

Total number of places 32

Number of children on roll 29

Name of provider Mini Magees Limited

Date of previous inspection 2 October 2012

Telephone number 01772556541

Mini's Daycare was registered in 2012. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. There are seven members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The manager holds a Foundation Degree in Early Years at level 5. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those who have special educational needs. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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