

First Class Nursery

St Thomas C Of E Primary School, Kenyons Lane, Lydiate, Liverpool, Merseyside, L31 0BP



Inspection date

5 November 2015

Previous inspection date

23 February 2012

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

- Children are happy, settled and emotionally secure. They form close bonds with the enthusiastic staff and other children. This contributes to children being confident, motivated and eager to learn and explore.
- The manager and her staff work well as a team. They reflect, evaluate and share their knowledge to plan for improvements to practice. They accurately recognise where they are most effective and the areas they need to improve. Staff are very proactive and consider the views and ideas of parents and children. This shows a good capacity to maintain and strive for continuous improvement.
- Staff plan stimulating activities based on children's stage of development and interests. This results in children being more deeply involved and they are focused for long periods of time.
- Children benefit from continuous outdoor play and regular exercise. This promotes healthy lifestyles with all children and has a positive impact on children's physical development and well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not use information about individual children's progress effectively to identify any specific needs of different groups of children.
- Staff supervisions do not focus strongly enough on raising the quality of teaching further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the monitoring systems when assessing individual children's progress and use this information to review different groups so that any necessary support or changes in practice can be identified
- build on the quality of staff supervisions to have a greater focus on the quality of teaching and help raise this to a higher level.

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 action plans and evidence of suitability.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff fully understand their responsibility to protect children. They provide a safe and secure environment and know to whom they should refer any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff regularly attend additional training to further develop their knowledge and continually improve learning outcomes for children. Risk assessments are thorough and staff help children to develop an understanding of how to stay safe and point out the dangers in their environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how to promote children's enjoyment through a wide range of learning opportunities. Staff are knowledgeable, highly qualified and prepare children well for the next stage of their learning and school. Parents are involved in their children's learning; they share what they know about their child when they first start attending and on an ongoing basis. Staff promote speech and language development well and use highly effective strategies to enable the children to extend their communication skills. They involve older children in conversations, extending their sentences and giving them time to expand on their own thoughts and ideas. Staff provide younger children with explanations of what they are doing during activities using simple concepts, such as big, little, more or less. Furthermore, mathematics language and concepts are explored. For example, staff talk to children about the speed at which water flows along pipes and they explore weight as they predict which objects will float or sink in water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are warmly welcomed into the interesting, enabling environment. New children are supported through well-organised, flexible routines that reflect the needs of each family and their children. Furthermore, children who have been attending for some time are kind and helpful to their new friends. This helps children settle quickly, feel safe and secure and they form strong friendships. Children demonstrate good independence skills relative to their ages. They independently manage snack time, serving themselves by pouring their own drinks and enjoying social time together. Children behave very well and are considerate of each other. This is because staff have high expectations of children, their opinions are valued and staff are good role models. Children are familiar with people who live and work in their local community. For example, they talk confidently about the local refuse collectors, window cleaner and postal workers.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff have a clear knowledge of the abilities of each child and accurately track children's progress across all areas of learning. This supports staff in identifying any gaps in children's learning and helps shape future planning. Consequently, children make good progress in their learning from when they first start and all children are working well towards the early learning goals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY312979
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	862110
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Maryvale Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2012
Telephone number	0151 531 1887

First Class Nursery was registered in 2005. It is situated in Lydiate, Merseyside. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm Monday to Friday for 51 weeks a year. The setting employs four members of childcare staff. Two of these hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3, one at level 2 and one has Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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