

Monkey Puzzle Irthlingborough

Diamond Business Centre, Attley Way, Irthlingborough, WELLINGBOROUGH,
Northamptonshire, NN9 5GF

Inspection date	24 November 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 nursery provides children and their families with a homely and welcoming environment where children are cared for by experienced, confident and enthusiastic staff.
- The manager is passionate in her pursuit to provide children with a wonderful learning experience that enables them to thrive and become confident and capable learners.
- Teaching is good and in some cases outstanding. Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning and use these to plan opportunities that inspire children's desire to learn.
- Children are happy and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. They quickly settle and develop close attachments to staff and other children.
- Children benefit from effective partnerships that exist between the nursery and external agencies and local schools.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff's professional development is not yet sufficiently focused to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently outstanding level.
- The tracking and analysing of the progress made by different groups of children to support them in making even more progress in their learning and development, is not yet fully embedded in practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's professional development to enable them to deliver the highest-quality provision and excellent outcomes for children
- focus more precisely on the progress made by different groups of children to support them in making even more progress in their learning and development.

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 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

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager's leadership skills have enthused a team of staff that share her dedication and commitment to providing children with a quality early years experience. Arrangements to safeguard children are effective. All staff understand the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care. The manager carries out regular staff appraisals, but this does not yet ensure all staff develop an expert knowledge of teaching and learning. The manager includes the views of parents, children and staff when evaluating her practice, and welcomes their ideas and suggestions. Required policies, procedures and risk assessments help with the safe and smooth management of the provision.

Parents overwhelmingly express how happy they are with the care and learning opportunities provided by the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work well with parents to gain as much information as possible about children's stage of development prior to starting at the nursery. This helps them to plan a broad range of activities and experiences that meet children's individual learning requirements. Staff understand how to promote children's curiosity and desire to learn. Children sit together and talk about the weather. Staff share photographs with them of the countryside covered in snow. Children are given a bag of ice and delight in experiencing the texture and temperature. Staff support children's language and communication skills well. Two-year-old children enjoy playing together with dolls in small groups. Staff show respect for their play through appropriate interactions. They ask the children if they would like some water to bath the dolls. Children develop an interest in books as staff spend time reading to them. They encourage children to use their imagination and complete the story for themselves. Staff use lots of opportunities to help children to count and to use mathematical language both inside and outdoors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is very good. Staff are excellent role models to children. They are calm and consistent. Staff support children to be tolerant to one another and to respect each others' differences. Children enthusiastically receive stickers for their achievements. This helps children to develop their self-esteem. Children are encouraged to become independent. They identify their own coat pegs, find their own outdoor shoes and know where to sit at lunchtime. The outdoor area provides children with lots of opportunities to play in the fresh air and to be physically active. Children are provided with freshly cooked nutritious meals and are encouraged to understand the importance of a healthy diet.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress. They are developing the skills and attributes needed for the next stage in their learning or move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486073
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1003087
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	105
Name of provider	Little Whales Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01933770818

Monkey Puzzle Irthlingborough was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, including one with Early Years Professional status and one with Qualified Teacher Status, and 13 with qualifications at levels 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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