

Lime Tree Day Nursery Ltd

North Street, Barrow-Upon-Soar, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 8QA



Inspection date

7 January 2016

Previous inspection date

24 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the nursery. They recognise that their children's confidence has grown since they started attending. Parents say the staff are exceptional at including them in their child's learning and development.
- Children of all ages relish exploring the well-resourced outdoor area. They have complete freedom to explore, test their physical skills and use their imagination. They have wonderful first-hand experiences of the seasons and weather.
- The quality of teaching throughout the nursery is outstanding. The well qualified and very experienced staff provide children with an incredibly broad and exciting range of activities and experiences. This has a positive effect on children's learning, development and outcomes.
- Children are very well settled and have formed exceptionally secure emotional attachments with staff. Effective settling-in sessions and a robust key-person system help children to feel safe and secure at nursery.
- The manager is highly effective in driving improvement. She demonstrates an uncompromising commitment towards achieving exceptional practice in all areas. Very effective self-evaluation includes the views of staff, children and parents.
- Children's individual needs are exceptionally well met. Staff assess specific needs accurately, putting additional support in place if needed.
- Robust systems are in place for risk assessing the nursery. Staff take positive steps to minimise hazards. This helps ensure children play in very safe, stimulating areas, both inside and outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to focus on monitoring groups of children and refine the assessments used to identify any gaps in children's learning.

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 two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and providers. 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.
- The inspector held discussions with various staff members throughout the inspection and talked to children at appropriate times.

Inspector

Carly Polak

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team expertly leads an enthusiastic staff team who is committed to delivering outstanding provision. Staff have high expectations for themselves and the children. The manager has developed a culture of reflective practice throughout the nursery. Highly developed systems for continuous, reflective practice ensure that the quality of teaching is consistently of a high standard. The manager is beginning to embed systems to monitor the progress of groups of children. She has recognised the continual need to take swift action and ensure that no group falls behind. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and their responsibilities to protect children. The manager recognises the importance of professional development and is supporting staff to work towards a degree qualification. This has a positive impact on children's learning, as staff's teaching abilities grow and they share good practice between each other.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Planning and assessment arrangements are sharply focused on each child's needs and ensure they make rapid progress. Information is frequently shared with parents so staff can work with them to maintain excellent outcomes for children. Staff provide an excellent balance of child-led play and adult-initiated play which helps them to follow children's interests and extend their learning even further. During play, staff demonstrate their first class teaching skills. They instinctively know when to let children explore and work out how to solve problems themselves. Children's communication and language skills are supported exceptionally well. Staff are creative and enthusiastic as they interact with children, often introducing new vocabulary as they play. They use favourite props to help children's understanding of phonics.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy and thriving in the nursery. Staffing arrangements are consistent so children readily seek out familiar staff for comfort when needed. Children moving between rooms are supported exceptionally well. Staff help children to be emotionally prepared and build on their self-confidence. Staff are excellent role models for children, with clear and consistent expectations. They help children to understand what is expected of them and consequently, their behaviour is exceptional. Children confidently manage their own personal hygiene routines and are developing their independence skills. They wash their hands, put their own shoes on and select snack for themselves. Staff promote equality throughout the nursery. Diversity is celebrated through discussion and activities which promote children's sense of belonging, and help them to understand about similarities and differences.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress in their learning, in relation to their starting points. They are highly motivated and eager to learn. They are extremely independent and show continuous learning in all aspects of their play. Children gain a vast array of key skills that fully support their readiness for the next stage in education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410994
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	851146
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	87
Number of children on roll	257
Name of provider	Lime Tree Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2011
Telephone number	01509 891 506

Lime Tree Day Nursery Ltd was registered in 2010. The nursery employs 39 members of childcare staff. Of these, 20 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Early Years Professional status and one with a teaching degree. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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