

Poppies Day Nursery

Sugar Pit Lane, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0NH



Inspection date

14 January 2016

Previous inspection date

29 July 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 quality of teaching is good. Well-qualified staff provide children with a range of challenging and fun learning experiences indoors. As a result, children are eager to learn and make good progress.
- Children are happy, confident and settled in the nursery. Strong key-person relationships help to ensure that children's emotional well-being is promoted.
- Monitoring of children's learning and development is thorough. Children's individual progress is tracked to identify any gaps in their learning. The manager and staff ensure that any identified gaps are targeted quickly.
- Knowledgeable staff have a very good understanding of children's individual needs. They use observation and assessment opportunities to ensure children's next steps of learning are planned for accurately.
- Staff have developed strong relationships with parents and other providers. They regularly share information with them to promote consistency in children's learning. This enables staff to meet children's individual needs and helps them to prepare children for their move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is a strong emphasis on working in partnership with parents to support children's learning. However, the way information is provided means that some parents are not getting an accurate picture of their child's progress.
- Staff do not provide enough learning experiences to fully support children who prefer to learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- share more precise information with parents so they are always aware of their children's current level of development
- provide even more rich learning opportunities for children who prefer to play outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the 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

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team has a clear drive for improvement. Since the last inspection progress has been made to ensure that all children, including those with English as an additional language, are fully supported. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a very good understanding of child protection issues. Robust risk assessments cover all aspects of the nursery, including places that children visit on outings. Thorough self-evaluation is used to identify any weaknesses and help staff to make improvements that support children's learning and development. Supervision meetings and effective monitoring of staff performance help staff to increase their knowledge and skills and enhance the outcomes for children. Robust policies and procedures support the nursery's good practice. They are reviewed regularly to ensure staff continually remain up to date with changes in legislation. This helps staff to ensure that children are kept safe and protected from harm. Strong partnerships with other professionals ensure that disabled children and those with special educational needs are supported well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a very good understanding of how children learn and develop. They plan a variety of activities. This helps to ensure that children enjoy a rich range of learning experiences indoors. Staff use their expertise and knowledge to interact extremely well with children, supporting their individual needs. Children's language development is promoted well. Staff skilfully ask questions to help to promote children's thinking skills from an early age. They engage children in meaningful conversations, which helps to extend their vocabulary. Staff introduce very young children to new words, such as swish and swash, during sensory play. Partnerships with parents are good. Staff encourage parents to share information about what their children are learning at home. They use this information effectively to assess children's starting points.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with a warm and nurturing environment. They help children to develop secure attachments. Opportunities for children to lead their own play help them to gain independence and self-confidence. Staff deploy themselves well. They provide children with the necessary support and guidance they need to develop their independence skills. Children are well behaved and staff manage behaviour consistently in line with the nursery policies and procedures. Staff are positive role models. They effectively help children to understand how to behave appropriately and encourage them to consider the needs of others. Children have access to regular activities, which promotes their physical development. This helps them to develop an understanding of the importance of exercise and to develop a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who receive funded early education, are making good progress. There is a good range of learning opportunities and staff ensure that children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY458012
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	1028443
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	80
Name of provider	J & D Salmon Limited
Date of previous inspection	29 July 2013
Telephone number	01565 977998

Poppies Day Nursery was registered in 2013. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two with Early Years Professional status or Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, with the exception of a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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