

Little Scholars Day Nursery



Little Scholars Nursery, 174 Lincoln Road North, Birmingham, West Midlands, B27 6RP

Inspection date	14 January 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff are not always deployed effectively. On one occasion during the inspection, the required staffing ratios were not met.
- Children's well-being is compromised as staff do not always follow good hygiene practices.

It has the following strengths

- Staff support children's learning and development effectively and children make good progress. Staff provide a good range of resources and activities that helps to promote children's learning.
- There are systems in place to promote the safety of children. Managers undertake appropriate checks on the suitability of adults. Staff carefully monitor the door when children arrive and depart to ensure children cannot leave unsupervised.
- Children are happy and comfortable in the setting. Staff are very welcoming and children form appropriate bonds and secure emotional attachments with staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ ensure that good hygiene practices are followed at all times	18/01/2016
■ ensure that staff are deployed effectively and the staff-to-child ratio is met at all times.	18/01/2016

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

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have attended safeguarding training and swiftly recognise any concerns. Staff work closely with the relevant agencies if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The organisation of staff is not always effective. On one occasion at the beginning of the inspection, a qualified member of staff was left alone with eight children for a very short period of time. However, the inspector was satisfied that this was a one-off incident. Staff are well qualified. They assess children's progress and use this information to plan for children's future learning. The nursery has recently opened and plans for further improvements have been identified. Staff seek parents' opinions regarding the quality of care provided for their children. Staff include parents on outings with the children, which helps to forge positive relationships. Guidance and support for staff are in place and the manager has begun to observe staff's practice and provide appropriate coaching and monitoring.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children make good progress in this newly opened nursery. Staff welcome contributions from parents in respect of their children's development. Staff collect information about children's starting points when they first start at the nursery. Observations and assessments are used effectively to identify and address each child's learning needs. Children enjoy their learning and are motivated to join in activities. They use play dough to make shapes and develop their understanding of number, size and shape. Children listen attentively during story time. Staff ask children questions that encourage them to solve problems and think critically. They enjoy a game of picture dominoes, which encourages children to match words with pictures. Children develop good communication skills; they talk to each other and describe what they see.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children behave well and with consideration for each other. They enjoy their learning and make friendships with other children. They learn about healthy lifestyles during discussions with staff at mealtimes. Children develop independence. They serve themselves at mealtimes and help to prepare salad, which they eat for lunch. They learn how to protect themselves from infection through regular routines, such as washing their hands before meals. However, good hygiene practices are not maintained by staff. For example, they do not routinely clean children's potties after they have been used, which compromises children's well-being. Children have regular opportunities to play outdoors where they benefit from fresh air and developing their physical skills. The key-person system is well established. Staff take the time to get to know each child and their family, which enables children to settle quickly into the nursery. Younger children enjoy peaceful sleep at appropriate times of the day and are consistently supervised by staff.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. Staff promote children's learning so that they are well prepared for the next stage in their development and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489321
Local authority	Solihull
Inspection number	1035578
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Rita Horsley and Sheree Horsley Partnership
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01217645497

Little Scholars Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two are qualified teachers and two staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery is open all year round, except for bank holidays. It operates from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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