

Little Gems Nursery and After School Club



Ravenscroft Primary School, Ebony Way, Kirkby, LIVERPOOL, L33 1XT

Inspection date	20 January 2016
Previous inspection date	6 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

- The quality of teaching is consistently good. The well-established staff team is skilled and experienced. They are good role models. They are enthusiastic, playful and eager to explore and experiment.
- Staff work well as a team. They are supported well by the providers and managers who lead with a vision for quality. Self-evaluation procedures are accurate, involve parents and staff and effectively drive continuous improvement.
- Children have good opportunities to play and learn. Staff plan a broad range of activities covering all areas of learning that children find fun and challenging.
- Children are well cared for. They are happy and settled. The nursery has a clear focus on developing children's personal skills. Children play cooperatively and are developing good social skills.
- Staff effectively observe, assess and plan for each child's individual learning needs. They get to know children and families well and work closely with other agencies to help all children make full use of their learning opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Recently introduced ways to more closely monitor and analyse the progress made by different groups of children are yet to have full effect.
- Opportunities for staff to share their knowledge and best practice with each other have not yet been maximised, in order to build on their already good practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of children's progress to enable a closer analysis of the outcomes of different groups to help identify further targets for improvement
- enhance opportunities for staff to share their knowledge and best practice to sustain and raise the quality of teaching even higher.

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 and spoke to the providers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Mary Wignall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Effective procedures for staff support and development help them to have a good understanding of their role. They are well qualified and attend regular training events to maintain and enhance their knowledge and skills. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure understanding of what to do if they have any concerns about a child's development or welfare. Recruitment and risk assessment procedures are robust and create a safe and welcoming environment. Partnerships with parents are valued and effective. Targets for improvement are well focused. Improvements to the outdoor space have resulted in it being enjoyed and used by all children to fully support their all-round development. Leaders and managers actively promote equality and diversity. They monitor children's progress and ensure individual plans for them are effectively implemented by staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are active and motivated as they play and explore. Staff use their good knowledge of each child well to plan activities that excite and stimulate them. Staff make learning fun as they use playful language and skilfully join in play to support children's development and independence. They are good role models for children as they demonstrate how they can move through tunnels or jump in hoops. Staff capture children's interest as they read with great expression or ask questions about their drawings that entice them to talk and add more details. Parents are well informed about children's development. Staff encourage parents to share information about their children's development at home. They make sure parents are welcome and know what they are doing to support their child's progress. All children, including those with English as an additional language, are developing good communication skills. Staff use a range of effective teaching techniques, including speaking clearly and using signs and gestures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Staff place a strong emphasis on developing children's independence and respect for each other. Staff have high expectations of children. They support children to share responsibilities and understand the need for safety. Older children need little or no reminders to tidy toys away after they have finished with them. Younger children cooperate with care routines. Staff are caring. They have time to talk to children about what they are doing to develop their understanding. Children are well prepared for moves within and to and from the nursery. Parents are closely involved in all moves to help plan consistent routines for children. Staff are calm and nurture good relationships between children. Mealtimes are sociable. Staff sit with children, talk naturally about the benefits of healthy eating and encourage them to use appropriate cutlery at an early age.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well equipped and prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children are active, curious and are developing key skills needed for successful learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY345926
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	857341
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 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Maryvale Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2012
Telephone number	0151 548 0222

Little Gems Nursery and After School Club was registered in 2007. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one with Qualified Teacher Status, three at level 5 and five at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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