

Little Scallywags Day Nursery

72 Longmeadow Crescent, Birmingham, B34 7NG



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| Inspection date | 10 February 2016 |
| 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 quality of teaching is good. Staff understand how children learn and they interact with them purposefully to extend their play. Children are motivated to learn as they are provided with a wide range of stimulating learning opportunities which is linked to their interests.
- The manager and her staff work well together as a strong and united team. They are all dedicated to their roles and strive to continually improve the setting for children and their families. All staff are warm and welcoming. Children form strong attachments to their key person.
- Partnerships with parents are highly valued and staff make every effort to share information about children's progress. Therefore, parents are well informed about what their child needs to learn next. Parents are provided with ideas to help them extend their children's learning at home.
- The learning environments, indoors and outdoors, are inviting and stimulating with good quality resources. Children have plenty of opportunities to lead their own play and make choices about what they want to do.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always display high expectations of children's abilities. Staff are, sometimes, over cautious during activities and, occasionally, limit children's ability to learn to take manageable risks safely.
- On occasions, children find it difficult to concentrate on stories due to background noise and lose interest.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise staff's expectations about children's abilities and enable them to take manageable risks
- plan activities that require concentration more carefully, so that children are able to maintain their interest and fully engage.

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 the nursery coordinator. 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 number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to ensure children are safe from harm. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place and all staff follow the agreed safe working practices. There is effective monitoring of all aspects of the provision, including individual children's progress. This ensures any gaps in provision or in children's development are promptly addressed. Staff regularly reflect on their teaching practice. They identify areas for improvement to continually raise the quality of children's learning experiences. Staff meetings enable best practice to be shared. Regular training is provided to enhance staff's existing skills. Training is closely linked to children's needs, so that staff develop practical skills to improve outcomes for those who currently attend. Parents are warmly welcomed into the setting and speak highly of the experienced and well-qualified staff team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work closely with parents to identify children's starting points. They use this information alongside their own observations to assess what children know and can do. They then plan interesting activities that promote children's next steps in learning to ensure they make good progress. Children use chalk to draw around each other as they lie on the floor. They discuss who is taller and smaller, developing an understanding of size. Staff skilfully engage children in discussions about emotions as they add happy and sad faces to their drawings. This promotes children's understanding of feelings. Children develop good physical skills necessary for later writing as they use pencils with increasing control. Children use cutters and rolling pins competently while they play with dough. They identify shapes and count how many they have cut out. Staff introduce new activities they know children will enjoy. Children's exploratory impulses are met as they enjoy investigating a mixture of cornflakes, water and oats. They talk about what they see and feel, increasing their vocabulary as staff introduce new words into their discussions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's developing independence is generally well promoted. Children put on their coats to play outdoors. Staff encourage older children to think about what they need to wear to keep themselves warm. Children behave well. They form friendships with other children and are kind and considerate to each other. Children's physical well-being is effectively promoted. The newly completed Forest School area encourages children to learn about the natural world and they enjoy fresh air as they play in the mud kitchen. They learn about their local community during outings to the library, shops and park. Children learn about healthy eating and enjoy nutritious snacks and meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic in their play and show good levels of confidence and independence. Children make good progress and are gaining the key skills to be ready for the next steps in their learning and school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY478240 |
| Local authority | Birmingham |
| Inspection number | 987550 |
| 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 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 54 |
| Number of children on roll | 94 |
| Name of provider | Little Scallywags Day Nursery Ltd |
| Date of previous inspection | Not applicable |
| Telephone number | 01217896497 |

Little Scallywags Day Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery employs 15 members of staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one has level 4. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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