

The Learning Tree Nursery

47 Beryl Road, Prenton, Merseyside, CH43 9RS



Inspection date	23 March 2016
Previous inspection date	22 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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

- Staff working with babies have an excellent understanding of how young children learn and develop. They support their early communication and language skills exceptionally well. Babies learn new words rapidly and thoroughly enjoy their interactions with staff. The quality of teaching is outstanding at times in the baby room.
- Leadership and management are strong. The manager and staff have worked hard since the last inspection to improve learning outcomes for children and enhanced many aspects of their practice.
- Staff complete detailed observations of children and use this information effectively to find out what children can do. This enables staff to plan purposeful, challenging activities to help children move on to the next stage in their learning.
- Children demonstrate strong emotional attachments with their key persons. They are happy, well settled and display high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff are sensitive and caring, and ensure that children's physical and emotional needs are consistently met to promote their self-esteem and welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships have not been fully established with other early years settings that children also attend, in order to help promote a shared approach to meeting their needs.
- The monitoring systems for staff performance are still in their infancy and not yet sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to outstanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the links with other early years settings that children also attend, to help promote continuity in their care, learning and development
- enhance the current programme of professional development to focus more strongly on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

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 joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager.
- The inspector 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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.

Inspector

Rachel Deputy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. Recommendations from the previous inspection have been addressed, with some aspects still being refined. For example, the manager undertakes thorough recruitment and induction procedures with staff and students. Regular staff supervision is in place and the manager uses this opportunity to provide staff with constructive feedback about their practice. The manager uses the analysis of group assessment information effectively to prioritise staff training. Staff work with external agencies to share ways to fully support disabled children and those with special educational needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and provide babies and children with challenging and exciting activities designed to capture their imagination and interests. Staff are full of fun and enthusiasm, and children are totally absorbed in their play and learning. Props in the garden are skilfully used to bring stories and rhymes to life, keeping children interested and engaged. Babies and toddlers independently access an extensive range of materials, helping them learn through their senses and also promoting their natural exploratory impulse. For example, babies delight in exploring textured paints. Staff teach children to recognise and write their names and develop an understanding of phonics. In addition, they provide a broad range of activities to encourage them to speak and listen. This has a significantly positive impact on children's communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children confidently explore the environment and make choices about what they want to do. Staff help children develop good independence skills as they encourage them to do things for themselves whenever possible. Children demonstrate high levels of independence as they manage their own personal care needs, in readiness for school. Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise, teaching them the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle. They are excellent role models and play alongside children, helping them understand how to share and take turns. This helps children develop strong friendships and a secure understanding of acceptable behaviour.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning, including children who are achieving below expected levels of development when they first start at the nursery. They quickly achieve levels of development that are typical for their age. Children explore other cultures in their community and learn to respect the differences and similarities of other individuals. They develop strong relationships and a good range of skills, abilities and attitudes, which is preparing them well for their future learning and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306503
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1023308
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	31
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	Jane Orme
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2015
Telephone number	0151 677 3560

The Learning Tree Nursery was registered in 1999. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, and two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2. The nursery manager holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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