

Small Wonders

115 Church Road, Haydock, ST. HELENS, Merseyside, WA11 0JU



Inspection date

11 April 2016

Previous inspection date

24 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

- Children have good relationships with staff and each other. Children have conversations, ask questions and respect each other's views. This helps them to develop their social skills.
- Partnerships with parents, external agencies and schools are strong. Children receive very good support which contributes to meeting their care needs successfully and improving outcomes.
- Self-evaluation is accurate and clear action plans are in place for future improvements. The manager and the staff are highly focused and committed to delivering a continual good level of care and learning experiences to children.
- Staff use their accurate assessments from their observations of children, alongside input from parents, to support children's progress effectively. They plan for the next steps in their learning with a wide range of activities that covers all areas. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from when they first start at the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Overall, the key-person system is strong, although, there is scope to ensure that the needs of younger children are met to an even higher level.
- The organisation of some resources makes it difficult for younger children to choose what they want to play with or to fully explore and access them independently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the already good key-person system to provide even more opportunities that enhance children's emotional well-being even further
- enhance opportunities for children to make choices, initiate their own play and lead their own learning.

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 the area manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the nursery.

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are clear about the importance of acting swiftly if they have any concerns regarding the welfare of children. Staff teach children how to be safe in various situations and carry out thorough risk assessments to provide a safe and secure environment. Since the last inspection the manager has implemented clear systems to monitor staff practice and children's progress. Furthermore, frequent, high-quality supervision meetings are carried out. This has greatly improved the high quality of teaching and the additional focused staff training that takes place. Parents are very appreciative of the support and time that staff give to them and their child and say it is a happy, caring environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified. They have a good knowledge of children's interests and stages of development and use this well to plan activities and support children as they play. Children learn about growth, decay and the natural world around them. They dig the mud, water flowers and discuss the vegetables that are growing. Staff promote mathematical concepts well and children count, compare size and are introduced to concepts, such as, more and full. A strong emphasis is placed on promoting children's communication and language skills. Staff repeat sounds that babies make and introduce new words to younger children, such as, spin and twist, as they pour water on rotating wheels. Additionally, older children are engaged in activities that support them in recognising letters and hearing sounds in words. This helps support and extend children's language, thinking and literacy skills and prepares them in readiness for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide an environment that is warm and welcoming to children. Flexible settling-in sessions work well and children's needs are considered as they move to the next room in the nursery or to school. Overall, a wide range of resources is offered and children are motivated to try new experiences that are available to them. Children behave well. They listen to instructions and understand nursery rules. Staff support children in gaining knowledge about the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle and the effect it has on their bodies. Furthermore, children follow thorough hygiene procedures, such as brushing their teeth, wiping their noses and washing their hands before eating. They have daily opportunities to develop their physical skills and benefit from fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, active learners and all make good progress. Different groups of children, including children who have special educational needs or disability, are monitored. Furthermore, an overview of nursery data is evaluated regularly. This helps to identify and assess any early interventions that are needed and any emerging gaps in children's learning are consistently narrowing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY392745
Local authority	St. Helens
Inspection number	1023306
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	126
Number of children on roll	135
Name of provider	Small Wonders Day Care Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 July 2015
Telephone number	01744627925

Small Wonders was registered in 2009. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It also operates a breakfast club from 7.30am until 8.45am, an after-school club from 3pm until 6pm, and a holiday club from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs or disability. It also supports children who speak English as an additional language. There are 21 staff who work with the children. One holds Early Years Teacher status and 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 6.

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