

Little Gruffalos (Hemsworth)

The Salvation Army Community Centre, Bush Street, Hemsworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF9 4AZ



Inspection date	9 August 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

- Leaders keenly monitor the impact of staff practice on children's learning. Any weakness in practice is swiftly tackled.
- Leaders give a high priority to joint working with other professionals. The sharing of relevant information helps to secure the support that children and families need.
- Staff discuss children's progress and the next steps for their learning with parents. They also involve parents when completing the progress check for children aged between two and three years.
- Well-qualified staff confidently demonstrate that children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills they need for the next stage in their learning.
- The key-person system is well embedded. This helps to ensure children are always supported by an adult who knows them well.
- The outcomes for children are closely monitored and show that gaps in learning are steadily closing.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although teaching is good overall, some of the staff's teaching skills are not yet refined sufficiently to help children learn as much as possible from each activity and to secure their rapid progress.
- The strategies used to help parents share information about what their children are learning at home are not always successful.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching skills in explaining and questioning, in order to help extend children's learning further and increase the potential to achieve excellent outcomes for children
- explore further ways to help parents to share information about what children are learning at home so that a broader picture of children's achievements is gained.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the registered individual and deputy manager. She 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 to the children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

June Rice

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect. They are clear about the procedures they must implement to help safeguard children. The recruitment and vetting procedures are robust and help to ensure the suitability of staff who are working with children. Staff are vigilant in carrying out visual risk assessments on a regular basis and implement health and safety procedures effectively. Leaders review the cause of any accidents on a regular basis to help identify possible hazards to children. This helps to ensure the environment, resources and equipment remain suitable for children to use.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children to make their own decisions about what they want to do. They ask them if they want a story. They explain they will be looking at how animals move. Children show good listening skills and become actively involved in the story. There is much laughter as children stretch their legs like an ostrich and wobble like a penguin. Children's learning is extended as they are encouraged to explore and imitate the sounds animals make. Staff talk about, 'Big, long steps' and are quick to support children who want to learn more by measuring their height and feet. Children use a balance scale to weigh baking ingredients. They count the eggs and learn how to crack them open. Staff introduce words, such as mixing, stirring and squashing as children take turns to mix. They encourage children to describe the texture as they see the mixture changing. Children demonstrate good coordination skills as they carefully spoon the mixture into bun cases. Children make good use of a wide range of resources to feed their own imagination. Children play with a dolls' house and re-enact their own life experiences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents like the way children are learning to be independent and say staff, 'Have gone above and beyond' with the support they have provided to them. Staff have high expectations for good behaviour. Children are observed closely as they try to resolve their own differences and receive support when it is needed. Staff talk to children about being kind and sharing. This helps children to learn how to cooperate with others. Children are learning to eat and drink healthily. They are provided with freshly cooked meals that cater for their individual dietary needs and they help themselves to water throughout the day. Children are learning the value of fresh air and exercise through the many opportunities they have to be outside. They dress themselves in appropriate clothing for the weather and for the type of activities they wish to join. They put on waterproofs and Wellington boots to play in the water and mud kitchen and when the sun comes out they put on sun hats, understanding they need protection.

Outcomes for children are good

Leaders and managers use additional funding well to help provide additional support for children who need it. Children are eager to learn and become confident communicators. They leave the nursery confident in their knowledge of numbers and colours, and able to recognise their name in print.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY487726
Local authority	Wakefield
Inspection number	1012074
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Emma Claire Percy
Registered person unique reference number	RP515492
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01977612919

Little Gruffalos (Hemsworth) was registered in 2015. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and two weeks at Christmas. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs or disability, and children who speak English as an additional language.

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