

Funtrain Day Nursery

9 and 9A Hamilton Street, Birkenhead, Merseyside, CH41 6DL



Inspection date

23 August 2016

Previous inspection date

22 January 2016

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

- The managers and staff team are very committed to developing the service they provide. They have thoroughly reviewed their practice and made many positive changes since the last inspection.
- Staff have created a stimulating, well-planned environment. Children are happy and settled. They form close bonds and secure attachments with staff. Children show that they are emotionally secure as they confidently explore and make choices in their play. They make good progress in their learning.
- Staff are good role models. They help children to understand suitable boundaries and how to keep themselves safe. Children behave well and respond positively to gentle reminders.
- Relationships with parents are strong. Staff continually involve parents in their children's learning and keep them well informed about the progress they make. Parents are very complimentary about the staff in the nursery and the support they receive.
- Staff make good use of the local area and amenities. This helps children learn about the community in which they live and the wider world. Children take part in regular outings and fundraising activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice and use of professional development opportunities are not yet highly focused on developing the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.
- Recent procedures for planning and monitoring the educational programme to help children make the best possible progress have not yet been fully embedded in practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further systems for the monitoring of staff practice and use of professional development opportunities that help raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- embed the procedures for planning and monitoring the educational programme even further and help children make the best possible progress.

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 one of the nursery managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery managers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's action plans and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector discussed children's learning records and planning documentation with staff and the nursery managers.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and provided in written feedback.

Inspector

Susan Hopper

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers have worked hard to address the actions and recommendation raised at the last inspection. Self-evaluation includes the views of staff and parents and is used well to identify areas for improvement. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff are trained in child protection procedures. They have a good understanding of what to do should they have a safeguarding concern. Detailed risk assessments and checklists help to ensure that any potential hazards are identified and thoroughly assessed. This helps to keep children safe from harm. Procedures for recruitment and vetting are thorough. The arrangements for the induction of new staff are used well. The managers ensure that staff are fully aware of the nursery's policies and procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use a wide range of good teaching techniques. They plan a broad variety of interesting activities. Children develop their coordination and early writing skills using a range of tools and materials. For example, they make marks in wet sand and describe shapes that they have drawn. Children enjoy manipulating play dough and enthusiastically talk about what they are making. Staff support children's language development well. They model the use of new words and engage children in conversations. Children have regular opportunities to practise their literacy and singing skills. For example, they share books and use pictures and finger puppets to accompany their singing. Babies and toddlers are well supported as they play and independently explore. Staff maintain a running commentary and provide generous praise and encouragement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make good use of settling-in sessions to get to know children and their families. They collect detailed information about children's needs and care routines. The key-person system is well established. They work closely with parents to support children as they settle into the nursery and when they change rooms. Children enjoy their time at nursery. They are happy, motivated and eager to play and learn. Children's independence and self-care skills are well promoted. They learn about the importance of having a healthy and active lifestyle. Children are provided with nutritious snacks and meals. Staff talk to children about the healthy qualities of the food they are eating and encourage them to make good choices. Children follow good hygiene procedures and understand the importance of handwashing. They have regular opportunities to play outdoors in the fresh air. Children enjoy being physically active. For example, they climb, slide, throw balls and ride bicycles.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for school. They make good progress from their starting points. Children learn to count, recognise shapes and colours and identify their name. They demonstrate good concentration skills when listening to instructions and engaged in play activities. Children play well together, take turns and share resources. They acquire the key skills they need for their next stages in learning, including starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310371
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1037601
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	45
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Fun Train Day Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP907075
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2016
Telephone number	0151 647 0482

Funtrain Day Nursery was registered in 2005. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. They close for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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