Willowdene Day Nursery

116 Fairfield Road, WIDNES, Cheshire, WA8 6SJ



Inspection datePrevious inspection date

12 September 2016

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 manager is making good use of training opportunities to develop the staff team's skills. Staff network with other company professionals to share and improve their knowledge, understanding and practice. This is having a positive impact on outcomes for children.
- The manager has good support from the knowledgeable leadership team within the company to, overall, help raise the quality of the nursery. Action plans are in place and areas for improvement have been identified. The views of staff, parents and children are welcomed.
- Staff are well qualified and have a good knowledge of child development. They provide a wide range of resources and activities that covers all the areas of learning and motivates children to learn.
- Children's behaviour is good. They play well together and learn about boundaries and rules. Children learn the importance of being kind to each other and the needs of others, including animals. For example, they are actively involved in looking after the nursery rabbit and provide it with food and water.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some new systems are not yet fully embedded or monitored to measure their impact on maintaining and further improving the good quality of teaching and learning.
- Occasionally, staff do not give enough time for children to think and answer questions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed and review the impact of recent changes made to the nursery and staff practice that further raise the already good standards
- enhance teaching skills that give children more time to answer the questions that have been asked and help support their ability to think critically.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, both 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 area managers.
- 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 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 have a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow should they have a concern over a child's welfare. Daily risk assessments are carried out to help ensure that risks to children are minimised. Recruitment is robust. New staff have a thorough induction to help them successfully fulfil their roles and responsibilities. Staff attend regular team meetings and keep up to date with any changes in legislation or company policies. The manager has good partnerships with parents and other early years professionals, such as speech therapists and teachers. This helps support children in their development and they share ideas for their future learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff successfully assess children's progress in their learning and development, and identify any areas needing additional support. This helps all children achieve to a good standard, including children who have special educational needs or disability. Staff join in children's play when appropriate and understand when to observe from afar. This helps to identify children's interests and helps to inform planning for their next steps in learning. Babies listen and join in with songs and rhymes. They develop early literacy and communication skills. They look through books, point to pictures and develop new words. Children delight in exploring a range of materials as they make patterns with paint and experiment with colour. The outdoor area is organised to offer many opportunities for exploration and imaginative play. For example, older children have great fun playing with model dinosaurs in a large sandpit.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is effective. All staff are clear about their roles in supporting the development of children's confidence. Staff show great interest in children. They build up secure relationships and get to know them well. Children's personal, social and emotional development is supported when children first start. Parents provide information to staff about their child's routine, likes and dislikes. New children appear happy and settle in the nursery quickly. Children are active and develop good physical skills. They competently climb on tyres, run around and ride bicycles, manipulating the direction and speed. Children grow strawberries in the nursery's growing patch. This helps to extend their knowledge of how things grow and change over time. It also supports them to develop an understanding of leading a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning. They are self-assured and enthused to learn and explore in the welcoming and enabling environment. Independence is promoted well throughout the nursery. For example, children are encouraged to feed themselves and are given the chance to choose appropriate resources to lead their own play. These skills prepare them well in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY493487

Local authority Halton

Inspection number 1025354

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

Total number of places 56

Number of children on roll 100

Name of registered person

Just Childcare Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP900954

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 0151 424 0282

Willowdene Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 2. The nursery opens on Monday to Friday, all year round, except for a week at Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs or disability.

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