

Appy Little Plums Ltd

2 Alma Street, Leigh, WN7 5JL



Inspection date

20 September 2016

Previous inspection date

8 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 provider has an accurate understanding of where the nursery is most successful. Since the last inspection, she has worked closely with the local authority and robustly monitors the quality of teaching. Her drive and determination have helped her make changes which have significantly improved the provision for children.
- The nursery's work to keep children safe is very secure. It is based on a broad understanding of safeguarding issues, in addition to impressive monitoring and partnership working with other professionals.
- Many children start nursery with levels of personal and social development that are less than typical for their age. By the time children leave, they have made good progress and are beginning to catch up well. This is particularly evident in their levels of independence and their understanding of expected behaviour. These skills are essential for their readiness for school.
- When they start nursery, children and parents are very well supported by their named key person. Children settle very quickly and rapidly become confident explorers. This helps them take every advantage of the interesting learning opportunities on offer.
- Links with parents and other professionals are used effectively to develop a swift and shared approach to planning for children's individual needs. Disadvantaged children and their families are well supported to get any additional help they need.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although all children make good progress, teaching does not provide children who are showing signs of speech and language delay or those who speak English as an additional language with the highest level of support to help them catch up more quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus teaching even more precisely when supporting children who need more help to develop their communication and language skills, to accelerate progress and help them catch up with their peers even more quickly
- increase expertise to help staff support children who are learning to speak English as an additional language in the best possible ways.

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 two joint observations with the nursery provider/manager in two different areas of the nursery.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery provider/manager and the local authority adviser. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation, monitoring data and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of the views of others using the nursery's records.

Inspector

Angela Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Since the last inspection, the provider has worked impressively to bring about improvements to the quality of teaching across the nursery. She has improved her understanding of effective leadership skills and she is monitoring robustly. This has led to increased accountability and consistency across the whole team. Through her precise tracking of every child's progress, she swiftly identifies each child's level of development across all aspects of their learning. The provider routinely checks the quality of staff's work through purposeful supervisions and provides relevant guidance and training opportunities to support them. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective and are at the heart of all the nursery's work.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff meet all children's learning and development needs well. They use observation and assessment effectively to deliver activities that take account of what children need to learn next. Teaching focuses particularly well on supporting children's personal and social development. Overall, children are supported well with developing and improving their communication skills. Staff give good attention to key-person support. Teaching in small groups, during well-planned key-person sessions, develops important listening and attention skills that prepare children well for school, for example, as children learn to raise their hand to answer a question. Staff make good use of the interesting play space inside and outside, along with consistent routines to help children become independent thinkers and learners and develop their physical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The robust key-person system effectively supports the sharing of information. This helps staff swiftly assess and plan how to meet children's individual needs. The very close, nurturing care helps children form secure attachments and develop high levels of confidence. Staff use a wide range of effective ways to help support children's personal and social skills. This includes the behaviours associated with good, independent learners. Consistent routines and visual prompts help children quickly understand what is expected of them. Staff successfully organise snack times as a way to help children develop coordination and responsibility. Children serve themselves and take care of their own equipment afterwards, including clearing and washing their own cups and plates. The highly stimulating environment, including the vibrant garden, ensures that children are happy to come and are highly motivated to play and explore. Oral health professionals are used to deliver activities as a way to help develop children's awareness of good health.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning based on their starting points. Babies enjoy exploring objects with a range of textures and features which stimulates their senses and by the time they are in the pre-school room, older children confidently investigate nature using magnifiers. They are keen to have a go, join in and find out more.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483066
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1036230
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 - 11
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Appy Little Plums Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909634
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2016
Telephone number	01942 602 010

Appy Little Plums Ltd was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3. One staff member holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions run between 7am and 6pm. The nursery also provides before- and after-school care, from Monday to Friday. These sessions run from 7am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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