

Our Lady's Pre-School

Lapwing Grove, Palacefields, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2TP



Inspection date

17 November 2016

Previous inspection date

2 July 2013

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|--|----------------------|-------------|---|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare | | Outstanding | 1 |
| Outcomes for children | | Outstanding | 1 |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children build very strong bonds with staff and their emotional well-being is fostered expertly. The staff take their time to get to know children very well. They value children's opinions and are keen for them to share their ideas.
- Relationships with other professionals, early years practitioners and parents are extremely robust. Highly effective communication systems are in place to share precise information about children's care and learning needs. Parents are complimentary about how much their child has learnt and about the stimulating activities that staff provide. This helps to achieve excellent outcomes for children.
- The manager and the staff team are highly qualified and experienced. They reflect on their practice in supervision meetings and have exceptional opportunities to extend and build on their fantastic skills. Staff attend a wide range of training and take part in a variety of studies and research. This helps them maintain their already inspirational level of teaching and children's progress is rapid.
- The systems for tracking children's progress are accurate and completed with absolute precision. Staff use their observations of children to support accurate assessments. They plan extremely worthwhile experiences to support the next steps in children's learning.
- The incredibly dedicated and passionate manager and the staff team provide an exceptional learning environment. This includes a range of highly rich and stimulating resources. Additionally, staff are extremely creative in their thinking and they adapt the environment in accordance with children's interests and to suit all stages of development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate plans to explore further ways to enhance the already excellent settling-in procedures and their impact on children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the pre-school's self-evaluation and the evidence of the suitability of staff working at the pre-school.
- The inspector took into account the views of the staff, children and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the pre-school.

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is inspirational. She has a fantastic vision and drives her team forward in helping them to support children and their families. Self-evaluation procedures are meticulous. The manager and staff team work closely with children and parents to gain their views. They identify what is working well and if there are any areas for improvement. Staff continually reflect on all areas of the provision to ensure the first-class quality is continued. For example, plans are in place to review and evaluate the current excellent settling-in procedure. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and the staff are extremely vigilant in their approach. There are meticulous policies and procedures in place, and they demonstrate an exceptionally thorough understanding of safeguarding legislation.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is superb. Children are exceptionally motivated and eager to join in group activities. Books and audio systems are used to help further children's interest and engagement in literacy. Children thoroughly delight in singing songs about the alphabet and telling stories together. Staff are consistently engaged in children's play. They use rich and descriptive language to extend children's vocabulary. Staff engage children superbly in conversation, taking a keen interest in what they are doing. Children show exceptional levels of perseverance and set their own challenges as they carry out games that test their memory. Staff promote children's mathematical learning to a high level. They introduce words, such as, pair, same and difference. Children are very eager to use what they know to solve problems. For example, staff provide different scenarios and extend children's thinking skills when they dig and fill buckets of sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The pre-school is a warm, welcoming environment. Resources are superbly organised, this helps children to make choices that support their own learning. Children's physical skills are remarkably well supported. For example, they listen to music and move their bodies in a variety of ways. Furthermore, staff develop children's awareness of real-life events as they re-enact their own music festival. This helps teach children about the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. It also helps to increase their awareness of popular events that are carried out in different parts of the country. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They praise each other for their achievements, learn to share and take turns. Children have superb social skills and share their thoughts and ideas. They assist in creating the pre-school rules and are very familiar with the daily routine.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress in all areas of their development. This includes children who are in receipt of additional funding and children who have special educational needs or disabilities. Children are extremely confident and self-assured. They demonstrate excellent independence and self-care skills. Children obtain a range of skills that helps support them in readiness for school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY443016 |
| Local authority | Halton |
| Inspection number | 1065863 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register |
| Age range of children | 2 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 24 |
| Number of children on roll | 31 |
| Name of registered person | Our Lady's Pre-School Committee |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP531421 |
| Date of previous inspection | 2 July 2013 |
| Telephone number | 01928 797366 |

Our Lady's Pre-School was registered in 2012. It is situated in the Palace Fields area of Runcorn. The pre-school operates in the grounds of Our Lady's School. The pre-school employs five members of staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 3 and 6. The pre-school opens on Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am and 12.15pm until 3.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who have special educational needs or disabilities.

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