

First Steps Private Day Nursery (Pennington)

Kirkham Road, Leigh, Lancashire, WN7 3UQ



Inspection date

15 December 2016

Previous inspection date

26 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 management team is committed to improvement and overall has a clear understanding of the strengths and weakness of the setting. A strong focus on promoting positive outcomes for children helps them to make good progress across all areas of their learning and development.
- The nursery is well planned with high-quality equipment in place. This helps support children to have a greater degree of flexibility in their play. This approach contributes to the good progress children are making in their learning and development.
- Partnerships with parents and other agencies are very effective. This helps to promote a highly consistent approach to children's care and learning. Children's emotional well-being and motivation to try are strongly promoted.
- Staff plan a good range of stimulating and exciting activities for children. Observation, assessment and planning for children's good progress are effective.
- Staff have formed strong bonds with children and effectively support their emotional well-being and confidence. Staff are very kind and caring.
- Children are happy and engaged in this vibrant nursery. They make good choices about their play and staff work in small groups with them to support their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the management team has recently reviewed the setting, new systems are not fully embedded to show the impact of the changes made and how continuous improvement is to be maintained.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed and build on the changes made to practice and monitor the impact to ensure improvements made are sustained.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in all of the playrooms and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the area manager of the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and staff spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector reviewed parents' written feedback during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Emma Barrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff ensure risks in the setting are managed well. Staff have training in how to protect children. They are kept up to date with changes through team meetings and training. Staff know what action to take and who to contact should they have any concerns regarding risks to a child. Accident and medication records are completed accurately and shared with parents. The majority of staff are qualified and they use their skills well to plan effectively for children's good progress. Monitoring of children's progress enables any gaps in their achievement to be identified and plans put in place to improve. Regular supervision helps staff provide continuity for children and training helps them improve their teaching skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Staff know children well and complete observations and accurate assessments that help them to plan for their individual needs. They plan a good range of exciting and engaging activities with a focus on children having choice. Babies dig in the sand and delight in the lovely sensory experiences. Toddlers enjoy story time as they sing songs and talk about going shopping in the role play area. Activities such as these, contribute to younger children's developing language skills. Pre-school children climb, paint and explore the outdoors, which helps them learn to manage risk and develop their imagination. They delight in exploring the worms which helps support their understanding of size, shape and measure. They learn to sit and concentrate, for example, as they contribute to story time, singing and talking about their day.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, engaged and settled with staff. They make choices about what they want to do and freely move between the inside and outdoors. They enjoy activities, such as running, riding bikes and going up and down the slide, which help promote their physical skills. Strong relationships with parents and other agencies effectively support children's welfare. Parents' wishes are followed from home. Children's behaviour is good. Staff foster children's self-esteem and confidence as they use praise well and value the contribution children make to their own learning. Children are helped to learn about healthy lifestyles as they sit together and enthusiastically talk about healthy foods. They show their developing independence and competently put on clothing for outdoor play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those who have special educational needs or disability and those who speak English as an additional language, are making consistently good rates of progress across all areas of their learning and development. They are animated and active and have good social skills. Pre-school children discuss with joy the volcanos they are making and how they can see them from a hot-air balloon. Through purposeful activities they are being prepared well for their future learning and move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	323014
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1064129
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	73
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	Sandra Green
Registered person unique reference number	RP512340
Date of previous inspection	26 June 2013
Telephone number	01942 679509

First Steps Private Day Nursery (Pennington) was registered in 1997. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine staff hold recognised early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and supports those who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs or disability.

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