

Early Learners Nursery (Middlewich)

Booth Lane, MIDDLEWICH, Cheshire, CW10 0JL



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| Inspection date | 4 January 2017 |
| Previous inspection date | 12 July 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

- Managers and staff have sustained good practice since the last inspection. They have made several changes to the premises, significantly improving the facilities for children. Playrooms are airy and well equipped with good quality play materials.
- Staff are well qualified and they understand how to promote children's learning. They accurately assess children's development and provide activities that engage and motivate children.
- Staff have worked hard to strengthen engagement with parents. Partnership working is strong and home learning opportunities contribute effectively to helping children make good progress in their learning.
- The spacious garden is a positive feature of the nursery which is highly praised by parents. Children use it in all weathers and this has a positive impact on their well-being and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make best use of support available, to help children make as much progress as possible in their speaking skills.
- Staff promote children's good health, but they do not always help children to learn as much as possible about the benefits of healthy eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more sharply-focused ways to help children make faster progress in their speaking skills
- strengthen opportunities for children to learn more about the benefits of eating fresh, healthy and nutritious food.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times and completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager. She discussed self-evaluation and looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Jan Linsdell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers are enthusiastic and strive to offer high standards of care and education for children. Self-evaluation is thorough and has led to major improvements to the environment. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Rigorous recruitment systems are in place to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff are well trained in safeguarding issues. They are confident in the procedures to follow should they identify any concerns about children or adults. Staff are well deployed and provide good supervision to help keep children safe. Staff receive ongoing support from the manager to enhance their practice, for instance, through regular supervision meetings. Robust procedures are in place to monitor staff performance, children's progress and the overall effectiveness of the nursery. This helps to promote continual improvements and maintain effective practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is effective. Staff interact well with the children and join in with their play. They make good use of electronic devices to support children's learning and to accurately record their progress. Staff provide activities that stimulate children and promote all areas of their development. For instance, they encourage children to explore with paint and play imaginatively with water, mud and leaves. Staff involve parents in children's learning in a variety of ways. For instance, they share a comprehensive blog of children's activities and they provide ideas about how parents can support children's learning at home. Staff offer choices so that children learn to make their own decisions. They provide lots of praise when children attempt to do things for themselves, such as putting on their own shoes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff show a calm and caring approach towards the children. The key-person system successfully supports children to feel safe and emotionally secure. Parents report that children settle very quickly and have good attachments to the staff. Children behave well. They learn to follow rules, such as listening to their friends and remembering to use good manners. This helps to develop their social skills. Overall, children learn to adopt healthy lifestyles. They follow hygienic routines and thoroughly enjoy being active in the garden. Children serve themselves at mealtimes and pour their own drinks independently. Pre-school children are keen to offer their help, for instance, to clean the table. Risk assessments are thorough and help to ensure children's safety, for instance, during renovations to the baby room.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress, including children in receipt of funding. Young children grow in confidence and learn to develop their independence. Pre-school children gain the necessary skills to prepare them for school. They follow instructions and listen well to favourite stories. They also develop early mathematical skills as they learn about different shapes and sizes. Outside, children take part in challenges, such as walking backwards, climbing hills and crawling through hidden tunnels. This supports their physical skills and helps them to manage age-appropriate risks.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY458157 |
| Local authority | Cheshire East |
| Inspection number | 1066622 |
| 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 - 10 |
| Total number of places | 76 |
| Number of children on roll | 86 |
| Name of registered person | Early Learners Nursery (Middlewich) Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP535431 |
| Date of previous inspection | 12 July 2013 |
| Telephone number | 01606841174 |

Early Learners Nursery (Middlewich) was registered in 2012. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two at level 2, six at level 3, one at level 4 and one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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