Munchkins

The Brambles, Plane Tree Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS5 4EJ



Inspection date	18 January 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff help to make sure children are kept safe from harm through effective safety policies and risk assessments.
- All children make consistently good progress from their individual starting points. Children are motivated, confident and active learners. Children are keen to explore the vibrant play areas and the extensive range of good quality play resources that is available.
- Children arrive happily and are eager to spend time with their friends. They are greeted warmly and enthusiastically by the friendly staff, with whom they develop strong attachments.
- Leadership is strong. The manager has an effective programme of supervision and professional development for staff. This has a positive impact, as it helps to keep staff's knowledge up to date and refresh their teaching skills.
- Parents state that staff are caring, friendly and welcoming. They comment that their children are very happy and making good progress in their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Group activities are not always effectively managed to fully engage younger children and extend their learning.
- Staff do not always engage with parents well enough to find out what their child has learned or achieved at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review group activities so that all children, particularly younger children, can fully participate
- provide more opportunities to support parents to exchange information with their child's key persons about their children's learning and development at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and children's key persons. She carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation, such as children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and plans for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of staff, parents and children spoken to on the day, along with written questionnaires completed by parents.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The dedicated manager ensures that all staff have a good knowledge of how to identify possible signs of abuse. Staff have a good understanding of what action they must take in the event of a concern regarding the welfare of a child. Recruitment is robust. The manager completes thorough checks to help to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Regular supervision meetings and appraisals help the manager to monitor and improve the quality of teaching. The nursery's sharply focused self-evaluation includes the views of parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The enthusiastic staff interact very well with children. They have high expectations of what children can achieve. Staff make regular observations and accurate assessments of children's development during play and routines. They use this information to plan and provide interesting and challenging activities that help to consolidate and extend children's learning. Staff engage very well with children in their make-believe play and use their good questioning skills to promote children's communication and language skills. Children are fully engaged in an activity with ice, paint, brushes and sponges for long periods. Staff encourage them to think, investigate and use language as they learn about freezing and thawing. Staff promote children's small-muscle control as they encourage them to dab and squeeze the sponges. Staff organise the environment particularly well to help children to be as independent as possible in leading their own play and learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and build strong and trusting relationships with others. They are polite to adults and each other. They share toys and resources well and are happy to take turns. Children are respected as unique individuals. Staff meet each child's specific care needs through warm and sensitive interactions. They help to promote children's good health. Staff work with parents to ensure that children are provided with healthy packed lunches. Children develop their confidence and self-esteem as they enjoy the praise they receive for their efforts and achievements. Children are learning how to attend to their own care needs. Staff help children to understand the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They learn about foods that are healthy and the importance of portion control and have regular opportunities to be physically active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's early literacy and communications skills are developing well. They are developing good pencil control and some can write the initial letters of their own name. Children develop their independence as they tidy away resources and help themselves to snacks. Older children learn to recognise numbers and name shapes and to make comparisons during their play. Younger children learn to count. This means they are gaining the essential skills they need in readiness for their future move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY485788

Local authority Sandwell

Inspection number 1002490

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register

Age range of children 1 - 4

Total number of places 22

Number of children on roll 26

Name of registered person Deborah Jane Raheem

Registered person unique

reference number

RP514604

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable

Telephone number 07800590548

Munchkins was registered in 2015. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 5. The preschool opens on Monday's, Thursday's and Friday's from 9.30am-2pm and Wednesday's from 9.30am-12.30pm, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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