

Little Lambs Childcare

240 Branston Road, BURTON-ON-TRENT, Staffordshire, DE14 3BT



Inspection date	31 January 2017
Previous inspection date	15 October 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

- Parents receive individual and detailed information about how they can best support their child's learning at home and staff place a strong and effective focus on this. Fathers are invited to attend workshops in the nursery to see how staff engage children in play and extend their learning.
- Children are effectively supported to participate in a wide range of stimulating and challenging activities. They enjoy taking part in large and small adult-guided group activities that help them to make good progress. Children develop the skills they need to initiate their own play and become independent learners.
- Staff provide a nurturing environment where children's emotional well-being is promoted well. Staff are kind and caring. Children learn good behaviours. They develop friendships and learn to share, take turns and consider others.
- A well-established programme of professional development is in place. Staff regularly meet with staff from the provider's other nurseries. They share best practice and provide support, guidance and coaching to help each other develop additional knowledge and skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff's teaching is not sharply focused on helping children who have little or no English to understand and speak English words.
- Children are not supported enough to eat a wide range of healthy foods.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the focus given to teaching children who have little or no English, to enable them to learn to speak English as an additional language.
- increase the opportunities for children to learn to eat and enjoy a wide range of healthy food.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Christine Armstrong

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff attend training events that extend their knowledge of child protection. All staff have a strong understanding of safeguarding issues and recognise their responsibility to protect the children in their care. They know what to do should they be concerned about the behaviour or actions of another member of staff. Thorough recruitment and vetting procedures and ongoing checks ensure that all adults are suitable to work with children. The management create a culture of ongoing improvement. They have made improvements to the quality of observations, assessments and children's next steps in learning. This has resulted in regular and accurate assessments of children's progress and well targeted next steps for learning. Managers have compared the progress that different groups of children make and are taking steps to address any differences. Good partnerships with other professionals contribute to ensuring that children who have special educational needs or disabilities receive the support they need to make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All children are supported well to feel safe, secure, valued and included. Bilingual staff and good partnerships with parents help to ensure children can hear and use their home language in the nursery. Staff work with parents to identify and meet children's individual care needs. Children have fun and enjoy playing outdoors. They are supported well to develop their independence. They collect and put on their coat and shoes, and select resources to play with. There are good standards of hygiene throughout the nursery, contributing to children's good health.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Activities are well prepared by staff. They are based on children's interests and abilities and their next steps in learning. Staff working with very young children are responsive to their interests. They are enthusiastic and skilful in capturing spontaneous opportunities to engage children in play and help them to achieve their goals. Staff model, demonstrate and explain to children how they can use the wide variety of resources and how they can play with each other. For example, during a group discussion time, staff help younger children to explore and learn how to use the props in the role play area. As a result, children initiate their own pretend play and test out their own ideas. They join in with each other and pretend to call 999 for help. They put on uniforms and use pretend extinguishers to put out fires.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next steps in learning. They are developing all of the skills they need for school. Children in pre-school become eager and confident communicators. They sit, listen and concentrate well during adult-led activities. They are interested in numbers, letters and the sounds they make. They write recognisable letters and numbers and simple, familiar words. They demonstrate friendly behaviour to other children and visitors. Younger children are eager and motivated to explore, experiment and learn new skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY461605
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1066840
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	C E Barker Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP532523
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2013
Telephone number	01283 565518

Little Lambs Childcare was registered in 2013. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one member of staff holds an early years qualification at level 6. 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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