

Little Scallywags Day Nursery

Newlands Farmhouse, Stonydelph Lane, Tamworth, B77 5PJ



Inspection date

13 February 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 determined leadership team places safeguarding as a central focus of the staff's daily care of children. The leadership team has high expectations and seeks the views of staff, parents and children to help continually improve the service offered.
- Teaching is consistently good. Staff provide a motivating range of challenging activities that has a clear learning intention to help children progress.
- Staff work closely with parents and involve them in their children's learning. The stay-and-play sessions and the home-link activities are popular with parents.
- Staff show a genuine commitment in helping children keep safe. They place a strong focus on forming a strong bond with their assigned children and promoting their confidence.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The professional development of individual staff does not identify precisely what they can do to raise the quality of their teaching to an exceptional level.
- Leaders do not always use the information they gain from comparing the progress of different groups of children to plan meticulously for each group's future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the arrangements in place for staff's professional development and raise the quality of teaching to an exceptional level to help children make the best possible progress
- use the information gained about the progress of different groups of children, such as funded two-year-old children, to help narrow the gap in their learning even more rapidly.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the owner. 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

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. A strong focus is placed on ensuring all staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues. Staff liaise closely with other agencies and professionals working with children to secure their welfare. The premises are safe, security systems are robust and staff are vigilant about children's safety. New staff receive a detailed induction and all of them are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Staff benefit from targeted training opportunities to help raise the level of their knowledge and skills. As a result, the quality of teaching is consistently good across the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and skilfully use the environment and activities available to capture the children's interest in what is provided. Staff know the children well and plan for their interests and next steps in learning to help them progress. For example, staff in the tweenies room encourage children to show care and cooperate with care-giving experiences. Children show very good levels of engagement as they wash their dolls and feed them 'mushy peas'. Staff are creative in their approach and activities are attractive and easily capture children's interests. For example, real fruits and vegetables placed in the role play area entice children to explore and talk about items, such as the coconut. Staff swiftly act on children's interests and encourage them to solve the problem of cracking it and discovering what is inside. Staff use play opportunities well to introduce new words, ideas and concepts. Staff target children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities well during the session to help them join in and make the most of the learning opportunities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The meals provided are freshly prepared, healthy and nutritious. For example, children learn about the benefits of healthy foods and enjoy their natural yogurt and banana. Children thoroughly enjoy being outdoors and are encouraged to increase their physical skills. Staff work closely with children to teach them about keeping safe. For example, children help carry out the risk assessment on the outdoor area and identify any potential hazards. Staff place a strong focus on helping children to settle and gain a real sense of belonging. For example, children, especially the babies, delight in seeing their family photographs on display, sparking their interest quickly. Staff caring for babies place a strong focus on increasing their confidence, physical skills and interacting with them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points, including those children who speak English as an additional language. The gap between the attainment of the funded two-year-old children and others is narrowing. Many of these children start with lower starting points and do progress well. Pre-school children show a real interest in phonics, numbers, counting and writing. Children are well behaved and learn about the feelings of others and respecting differences. Children acquire the key skills in preparation for school and their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497346
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1034488
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 - 5
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	90
Name of registered person	Little Scallywags Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP529264
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01827 282858

Little Scallywags Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, one holds an early years qualification at level 5, seven at level 3, three at level 2 and one is unqualified.

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