

Upton Day Nursery Ltd

Arley Drive, WIDNES, Cheshire, WA8 4XS



Inspection date	21 February 2017
Previous inspection date	15 November 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 well-qualified staff and passionate leadership provide a warm and welcoming environment for children to enjoy. Children confidently demonstrate that they are active learners as they independently choose what they would like to do.
- Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn and of what they can achieve, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. Staff challenge children successfully and ignite their motivation for learning with praise and encouragement.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents have regular opportunities to discuss their children's progress, including their achievements at home. Staff gain very detailed information from parents when they first start. This helps staff to plan effectively for children's future learning.
- The manager provides extremely valuable support for staff. For example, she holds regular meetings to discuss their practice and identify their training needs. Staff are encouraged to observe each other's teaching, creating a culture of reflective practice and helping to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to monitor the progress of different groups of children are not yet established, so any variations in achievements can be more swiftly targeted.
- Although the nursery has a good range of resources, the equipment that is readily available does not fully support children's sensory development and understanding of the natural world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the monitoring of children's progress to include different groups of children, helping to target teaching even more precisely
- strengthen opportunities for young children to develop their sensory skills and their understanding of the natural world.

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 deputy manager. 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.
- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff receive training in child protection, so they know what to do if they have concerns about children's welfare. They have a thorough understanding of their role and responsibility in keeping children safe. Staff complete meticulous documentation, including accident records and are appropriately trained to administer first aid. Furthermore, daily risk assessments help to assure children play in a safe environment. The manager offers effective support to ensure that staff receive ongoing help in understanding their roles. Self-evaluation successfully identifies areas of strength within the nursery and targeted plans are in place to further improve children's learning experiences. The reflective process involves staff and parents to help gain a good overview of the nursery and the service it provides to families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are skilled and confident in their teaching. They complete accurate assessments of children's progress and use their knowledge to plan fun and engaging activities that cover all areas of learning. These individual plans take into account children's interests, abilities and the next stage in their learning. Staff teach children successfully to develop important skills. For example, they help younger children to recognise shapes and colours and practise making marks with a variety of tools. Older children have an interest in early literacy. They sound out simple words, listen for familiar sounds and make marks for a purpose. Staff support children's developing language skills well. They speak to children clearly, repeat words and phrases and ask questions that encourage them to think.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Personalised settling-in procedures and effective information sharing help to ensure children settle quickly when they first start and when moving to a new room within the nursery. Children are happy, relaxed and show high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff are worthy role models, demonstrating polite, patient and friendly behaviour, who support children's emotional well-being. Children develop good social skills. For example, staff teach them how to play cooperatively together and to share resources as they build a tower of blocks in the garden. Children have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They successfully manage their own risks as they build a balance beam with crates and planks of wood. This helps to develop their physical skills and increase their confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of additional funding, make good progress in their learning and are developing the key skills they need for their future learning. They are self-assured and show increasing independence as they put on their coats, find their pegs and manage their self-care needs. Children thrive in the welcoming and nurturing environment, choosing activities that are rich and varied and support their learning in all areas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY463242
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	1066929
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	79
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Upton Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP532642
Date of previous inspection	15 November 2013
Telephone number	0151 4249831

Upton Day Nursery Ltd was registered in 2013. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and for a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are currently 10 childcare staff, including the manager, all of whom have appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

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