

Little Learners Amington

Amington Heath School, Quince, Tamworth, B77 4EN



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

28 February 2017

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 manager is passionate and ambitious about providing high-quality childcare. She is reflective and gathers the views of staff, parents and children to identify areas to develop that benefit all the children.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. They know the children extremely well, based on information gathered from parents at the start and on their ongoing observations. Staff take account of children's interests and plan activities to support their individual learning.
- Staff track children's progress and swiftly help children who require additional support. They have developed effective partnerships with external agencies and other settings children attend to ensure the specific needs of children are met.
- Children are happy and well behaved. They enthusiastically join in with activities, laughing and smiling as they play. Children's actions and comments demonstrate that they feel very safe and secure. This means children's emotional well-being is promoted well.
- The premises are safe and secure. Risk assessments are regularly carried out and potential hazards have been identified and addressed.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities to engage all parents in supporting their children's learning at home have not yet been fully explored.
- Although supervision systems work well, training does not always focus precisely enough on enhancing staff's knowledge and skills to an exceptional level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more support to parents in guiding their children's learning at home
- enhance supervision systems further so there is a stronger focus on improving the teaching of all staff to the highest level.

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. 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

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and neglect. They know what to do if they have concerns regarding a child's welfare. Policies and procedures are robust and regularly updated. Recruitment and vetting procedures are stringent and a thorough induction process helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff benefit from regular professional development opportunities. They observe each other's practice, share ideas and attend frequent team meetings. Staff talk enthusiastically about how they can improve their practice, demonstrating their commitment and dedication to supporting children to achieve well. Parents speak very positively about the care and education their children receive. They find the staff to be approachable and welcoming. There are good relationships with other providers. Staff regularly share information to help maintain continuity in children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff play alongside children and demonstrate their good teaching skills. They ask children appropriate questions, demonstrate and give clear explanations. Children have opportunities to explore and find out how things work. They excitedly play with magnetic construction toys, discovering the effects of putting different ends of the magnets together. Children use different tools and equipment in the sand, exploring what happens when they use a funnel or sieve. A range of activities is provided to help children develop their communication and language skills. For example, they regularly join in with listening games, rhymes and stories. Parents are regularly updated on their children's progress and are encouraged to share information about their child's learning and development at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are sensitive to the individual needs of the children. They ensure settling-in sessions are tailored to support all children. As a result, children are relaxed and settled, arriving at the nursery with enthusiasm and an eagerness to join in. Staff use a range of strategies to help children who speak English as an additional language. They promote an ethos of mutual respect and support children's understanding of diversity. They reinforce good manners and being kind. Children learn about staying healthy and develop an understanding of good hygiene practices. For example, they wash their hands, brush their teeth and are served nutritious snacks. Children have access to a well-equipped outdoor area where they develop their physical skills, such as climbing or moving wheeled toys.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. This includes children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children are successfully acquiring the key skills they need to move on to the next stage of their learning. Young children listen carefully and join in with action rhymes. Older children confidently find their name labels, count with accuracy and are beginning to recognise numerals. They take turns in speaking and to listen to others when in a group.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494151
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1030357
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	South Staffordshire College
Registered person unique reference number	RP520077
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07497 499638

Little Learners Amington was registered in 2015. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, the manager holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6 and the other two members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5 and level 3 respectively. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 2.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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