

Scallywags Nursery Limited

Castle Lane, Melbourne, Derbyshire, DE73 8JB



Inspection date	7 March 2017
Previous inspection date	11 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

- Leadership of the nursery is strong. Managers monitor and evaluate all areas of the provision and actively drive improvement to maintain good standards.
- Partnerships with parents and a wide range of professionals are good. Information is shared to support a collaborative approach to children's care and learning. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported extremely well.
- Children develop a strong bond with staff and build good relationships with their friends. Staff implement thorough settling-in procedures that help children feel safe and secure when they first start.
- Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning. They use this information to identify the gaps in children's development and prioritise their learning effectively. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- The manager and staff are good role models for children. Children's behaviour is very good and they respond well to the consistent boundaries set. They know to be kind and share with others and they are tolerant and respectful.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always plan group activities effectively. Some of these activities are lengthy and are not managed well enough to maintain younger children's concentration and interest.
- Staff have not given enough consideration to how the organisation of outdoor equipment can be managed most effectively to support the learning and play of younger children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of large-group times to help younger children to concentrate and be more fully involved
- review the organisation of outdoor equipment to better support the play and learning of younger children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the staff and children throughout the inspection. She held discussions with the managers about how they organised the nursery.
- The inspector discussed the assessment procedures and children's progress with the managers and children's key person.
- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers are committed to providing a high standard of provision. They are very passionate about their role in caring for children and have a clear view of what works well and what areas still need improving. Recruitment processes are effective in checking staff's initial and ongoing suitability. The managers support staff well and encourage them to develop their knowledge and skills to benefit children's learning. For example, staff have been helped to work as a team to develop their support of children's communication and language skills. Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff keep up to date with changes in child protection legislation. They have a good understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The managers and staff have a good understanding of how to promote children's learning through play. Staff plan challenging activities that quickly engage older children's interests and participation. Overall, staff teach and support children's learning well. They model how to use specific equipment, encourage children to learn and praise their efforts. For example, older children use equipment, such as spades and rakes, to make caves and castles in the sand. They practise their gluing and mathematical skills as they make caterpillars and talk about how long and short the caterpillars are. Staff provide babies with materials that they can explore, manipulate and feel. Babies delight in using their senses as they play and investigate. Staff provide good opportunities to encourage children's imaginary play. For example, pre-school children go on train journeys, buy tickets and tell staff they are, 'Going to the shops to buy fruit, sweets and ice cream'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help to create a friendly environment for children to play and learn in. Children demonstrate that they are comfortable in their surroundings as they move around their rooms. Staff help children to understand the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. For example, they ensure children enjoy nutritious food and daily exercise outside. Children develop a strong understanding of the world through experiences, such as learning how to care for the rabbit and fish and by growing their own flowers and vegetables. Staff provide a safe environment and help children to learn about keeping safe. Children learn about people and communities effectively as they find out about various festivals during the year. Staff make sure that the move from room to room or on to school is a positive experience for children. They manage arrangements very well to maintain continuity of care and learning.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress, particularly in relation to their language and literacy skills. They have a real love of books and take part in enjoyable activities using their voices in different ways and experimenting with words and sounds. Children are confident to explore the very well-resourced environment and are able to make many choices in their play, increasing their independence. All children are acquiring key skills for their future learning, including their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY244298
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1064368
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 - 10
Total number of places	111
Number of children on roll	115
Name of registered person	Scallywags Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520970
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2013
Telephone number	01332 862188

Scallywags Nursery Limited registered in 2003. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for the week between Christmas and New Year and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. There is a team of 23 staff who work directly with the children, including the owners/managers. All staff are qualified. There are 20 staff with early years qualifications at levels 2, 3 or 6. Two staff hold early years professional status and one of the managers is a qualified teacher. The nursery offers funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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