

Play & Learn

1-3 Carlton Road, Derby, Derbyshire, DE23 6HB



Inspection date	17 March 2017
Previous inspection date	1 March 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

- Staff recognise the uniqueness of each child. The good key-person system enhances relationships with children and their families very effectively. Children feel valued and respected and they have a good sense of belonging. They form strong attachments to staff and receive comfort and reassurance.
- Staff have established good working partnerships with parents. Children experience a coordinated approach to having their needs met. This is particularly effective for children who are learning English as an additional language. Parental involvement in their children's learning is highly valued and well promoted.
- Children make good progress in their learning. Staff accurately assess children's development and plan activities that meet children's individual learning needs. Staff adapt activities well to cater for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Staff are positive role models, displaying kind and calm interactions with children. Children behave well. Staff have consistent expectations and give children clear praise for good behaviour. Children respect each other and play harmoniously together. They take turns and share.
- The manager has a clear vision for the nursery and is very ambitious. She successfully communicates her high expectations to staff. Her action plan is well targeted and she has addressed the recommendations raised at the last inspection well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not do enough to encourage older children to practise their early writing skills.
- There are not enough opportunities for young children to build as far as possible on some aspects of their physical development, particularly their large-muscle skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for older children to practise and extend their early writing skills
- provide more opportunities for younger children to practise their large-muscle skills, to help further extend their physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the quality of teaching and the staff's interaction with the children.
- The inspector talked to the children and staff. She held discussions with the manager and deputy manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the children's progress with their key persons and the manager. She also discussed the planning.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector discussed some of the nursery's policies and procedures with the manager. She checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leadership is effective. There is a strong team of adults that works effectively together to provide for the children's individual needs. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are clear about safeguarding matters. They have attended training to keep their knowledge up to date. They understand the signs that may indicate concerns about children's welfare. Robust procedures are in place to recruit new staff safely and to monitor their practice. The manager checks children's development regularly and works with staff to seek additional support when necessary. Supervision and appraisal meetings help the manager to monitor the work of her team effectively. She identifies training programmes which have a direct and positive impact on outcomes for children. For example, following training on speech and language, staff have improved how they teach children communication and language skills. The manager uses additional funding well to support all children. The manager and staff work well with other settings and agencies to help support children effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced. As a result, they promote children's learning well through play. Staff plan a wide range of activities that motivates children to learn. They join in with activities and use opportunities to extend children's development well. Staff encourage children to use their speaking skills well. They promote children's thinking and problem-solving skills. When pre-school children role play baking cakes and cooking dinner, staff step in and join them to help build on this play. Staff suggest that they might go shopping. They also know when it is appropriate to leave children to their own explorations. Staff place a strong focus on promoting children's mathematical skills. For example, they encourage younger children to sort sparkly objects by colour and pre-school children to measure and estimate as they make castles and houses. Children investigate and explore objects and materials and use technology equipment well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are warmly welcomed into the nursery by experienced staff, who show enthusiasm for their work and a genuine interest in the children. Staff think carefully about the organisation of toys and resources to promote children's independent play choices. Children demonstrate that they are happy and confident in the nursery. They learn to make healthy choices and show impressive levels of independence when attending to their personal needs. For example, they take themselves off to use the toilet and to wash their hands before they have their snack. Staff teach children to learn how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well given their starting points. This includes children who receive funding for early education. They are acquiring key skills in readiness for school and their future learning. Children gain good independence skills and socialise well. They remain focused and involved in activities for sustained periods of time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY284120
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	1064568
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	60
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	Play & Learn Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902432
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2013
Telephone number	01332 20 44 84

Play & Learn was registered in 2004. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7am until 6pm, all year round except for two weeks over Christmas and New Year and on bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are nine members of staff, all of whom hold an early years qualification at level 3 or above.

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