

Little Bears Day Care

Brownlow Community Centre, Claypit Street, Whitechurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LF



Inspection date

13 April 2017

Previous inspection date

10 March 2015

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

- Children's safety and welfare are given high priority. Staff supervise children well and are attentive towards their needs.
- An effective key-person system helps children form strong bonds with staff. For instance, children benefit from having two key persons to help provide continuity of care and learning. Staff know children well and are caring and attentive. Children are happy, secure and settle quickly.
- Frequent opportunities for fresh air and exercise are provided for children. They learn about their local community and enjoy visits from representatives of the emergency services and health professionals.
- The new manager and her team are enthusiastic about their roles and are keen to maintain the good standards throughout the provision. Robust procedures for recruitment and checking the ongoing suitability of staff are implemented well.
- The environment is bright and stimulating. A wide range of interesting resources, toys and equipment is available to support children's play and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to extend children's problem solving and thinking skills to the highest levels.
- Procedures for monitoring how well all children learn are still in the early stages of development. Therefore, it is too soon to be sure that all groups of children make good or better progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for children to solve their own problems and to develop their thinking skills to the highest possible levels
- make effective use of cohort tracking to demonstrate more clearly how different groups of children make progress over time.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at a range of records and documentation, such as children's learning journals, safeguarding files and staff information. The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector talked to staff at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the setting's manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities taking place indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff are well trained in child protection and understand how to keep children safe. They have a clear understanding of the process to follow should they need to report any child protection concerns. Staff work well in partnership with parents and other providers to meet children's needs. They keep parents informed about their children's progress and well-being and help them to support children's learning at home. The manager inspires staff to continue their professional development. For example, she encourages staff to obtain further training and qualifications and to share their experiences with colleagues. Self-evaluation of the nursery is used to promote improvement. The views and opinions of staff, parents and children are taken into account.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their good understanding of how young children learn to monitor children's progress effectively. They use their observations of children's development to make accurate assessments and identify children's next steps in learning. Staff interact positively with children and encourage them to explore ideas, enjoy their learning and have fun. They support young children's emerging language development, encouraging them to repeat sounds and simple words. Children use their imagination as they play dressing up and pretend to cook. They plant seeds, water them and watch them grow.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and make friends easily. Staff use effective methods to encourage children to respect and listen to each other. Children play together well and learn to share their toys. They form close attachments with the staff who look after them and approach them confidently for cuddles and reassurance. Children's physical development is promoted well. They are able to select from a range of interesting activities indoors and outside. They excitedly use ride-on toys and enjoy music and movement sessions. Staff teach children about the wider world and they learn how to accept and respect differences in others. Children are valued in the nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop into confident, enthusiastic learners. They show interest in all activities and gain a sense of pride in their achievements. Children follow instructions well and are very familiar with the routines throughout the day. They show good levels of independence and are able to take care of their own needs. Children are making good progress in their learning. They develop good literacy skills. For example, younger children are keen to make marks with brushes and water and older children learn to write their names. This learning helps them in preparing for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426728
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1094811
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 - 4
Total number of places	51
Number of children on roll	120
Name of registered person	Little Bears Day Care Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910039
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2015
Telephone number	01948664313

Little Bears Day Care was registered in 2011. The nursery employs 18 members of staff. All of these hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one at level 2, 14 at level 3 and two who are early years professionals. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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