

Lynmore Nursery School Ltd

34 Sun Lane, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4HA



Inspection date	30 May 2017
Previous inspection date	10 February 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 team of staff and the ambitious manager have successfully worked in close partnership to address the actions raised at the previous inspection. For example, they receive comprehensive supervision meetings and attend a wide range of training.
- Children demonstrate that they feel relaxed and confident in this welcoming nursery. They form warm and secure bonds with their key person and all members of staff. For example, they express their fondness for staff as they present them with dough in the shape of a heart.
- Staff plan interesting and challenging activities. For example, older children persevere in finding the letters of their name hidden in set jelly. Younger children explore the sensation of ice cubes with their hands. They are fascinated as they discover how the warmth of their hands melts the ice.
- Children develop a good understanding of the positive impact animals can have in helping others as they meet and learn about the role of therapy and sniffer dogs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always gather detailed enough information from parents about their child's prior learning, in order to sharply focus on children's precise learning needs.
- Occasionally, staff do not enable children to solve mathematical problems and enhance their understanding of positional language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more detailed information from parents about what their child knows and can already do
- provide more opportunities for children to independently solve mathematical problems and help them gain a deeper understanding of positional language.

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 at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and reviewed the nursery's self-evaluation procedure.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff demonstrate a secure knowledge of up-to-date safeguarding issues and the procedures to follow should a concern arise about a child. Robust recruitment procedures are in place. All staff complete the required suitability checks prior to working with children. Most staff hold a first-aid qualification. They effectively deploy themselves throughout the nursery so that children remain in sight at all times. Furthermore, they are able to quickly respond in the event of an emergency. The manager ensures that children are consistently cared for by the required amount of staff. The whole staff team are reflective and regularly evaluate the provision they offer. The manager thoroughly monitors children's progress. Swift action is taken to address any gaps in children's learning. Staff work in successful partnership with other professionals to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Group time is a positive experience for children. Staff express a genuine interest in what children say. This motivates them to use complex sentences to recall previous experiences. For example, they talk about how they created sheep and blossom trees for a display within the nursery. Children use a wide range of tools that they dip into paint to experiment with and make interesting marks and patterns. They learn how to create new colours as they mix different coloured paint together. Children thoroughly enjoy the freedom to help themselves to a range of craft materials. They work out through trial and error that they need to apply more glue for some of the different-shaped dried pasta to stick.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Effective arrangements are in place to help children to feel comfortable and swiftly settle when they begin attending. Children positively benefit from staff being good role models. They behave well and develop secure and friendly relationships with each other. For example, they excitedly welcome their friends as they arrive at nursery and happily take turns to push each other in the disability vehicle outdoors. Parents speak highly of the nursery. They appreciate the warm, personalised care that staff provide their children.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, young children are able to identify the initial letter of their name. Children serve themselves healthy meals and independently manage their outdoor clothing. They gain the necessary skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123636
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1086729
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	38
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Lynmore Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP523451
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2017
Telephone number	01 582 764172

Lynmore Nursery School Ltd registered in 1988. It employs six members of childcare staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who holds an early years qualification at level 5. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year. It provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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