

Little Explorers Day Nursery



Little Explorers Day Care Centre, 20 St Annes Road, Cradley Heath, B64 5BS

Inspection date	2 June 2017
Previous inspection date	7 February 2014

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

- The managers and staff are passionate about providing a high-quality early years provision for children. Staff use what they know about children to challenge them effectively in their learning.
- Parents have very positive views about the nursery. Parents are pleased with the progress their children make, particularly in developing confidence and communication skills.
- Children's emotional security is given a high priority by staff. This is initially addressed with a flexible settling-in process that is agreed with parents in accordance with their child's needs. Children confidently engage in conversation with staff, their friends and visitors.
- The manager effectively evaluates staff practice. She provides coaching and training for staff to help improve their knowledge and outcomes for children in their care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide enough detailed information to parents to help them support their children's learning at home, in order to offer a more consistent approach.
- Sometimes children are distracted from listening to, and concentrating on, adult-led activities due to other activities taking place in the same vicinity simultaneously.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the good links established with parents to further encourage a shared approach to children's learning
- enable children to listen and concentrate without distraction during adult-led activities.

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. She spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic manager has developed effective systems for monitoring the quality of teaching and planning for children's learning. She regularly observes staff's practice and discusses any areas where improvements can be made. She also monitors individual and groups of children to make sure they are all progressing well over time. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff recruitment, vetting and induction procedures are robust. Staff know when and where to refer any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child. Self-evaluation, which involves staff and parents, is effective. A current priority for improvement is to develop an allotment for children to grow vegetables.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan effectively for each child's individual learning. They use information obtained from parents, along with their own observations and assessments of what children can and cannot do. Staff take account of children's learning styles in their planning to guide this effectively. They use their good teaching skills as they play alongside children. For example, staff encourage children to use their good language skills as they engage in imaginative play. Those who prefer to learn outdoors enjoy the wide range of resources and activities provided by the staff. Staff working with babies and young children provide many opportunities and experiences for them to explore and investigate.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play in a very welcoming, inclusive environment. They arrive eager and immediately join their friends in their play and behave well. They treat each other with politeness and respect and are happy to take turns. Staff promote children's self-esteem. They praise their positive behaviour, efforts and achievements. Children's good health is promoted well. They are reminded of the importance of washing their hands before eating. Staff provide healthy snacks and meals. They make regular checks to ensure the premises are safe and secure. Successful links with the local schools support children to make smooth transitions when the time comes.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Children can recognise and write initial letters of their names. They develop good manipulative skills while playing with toys and tools, such as puzzles and scissors. Older children's pencil control is good. Children learn to count, recognise numbers, use mathematical language and make comparisons. Babies and toddlers express themselves through physical actions, sounds and words. All children are well prepared for the next phase of their learning, including their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467957
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1088210
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	50
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Little Explorers (West Midlands) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP532490
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2014
Telephone number	01384 412197

Little Explorers Day Nursery registered in 2013. It is situated in the Cradley Heath area of Birmingham. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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