

Sticky Mits Childcare Centre

1-2 Queensgate, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN1 3JN



Inspection date

1 June 2017

Previous inspection date

5 August 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

- Exceptional partnership working helps to ensure children are kept safe and leads to improvement in outcomes for children and their families. The promotion of equality, tolerance and respect is demonstrated throughout the nursery's practices.
- Leaders and managers are proactive in seeking, evaluating and acting on the views of parents, staff and children to drive ongoing improvement. Professional development is targeted to help all staff improve their knowledge and skills.
- Highly effective assessment identifies where children are slower to develop key skills. Early intervention programmes are implemented to help them catch up. Additional funding has been used successfully to enhance outcomes for children.
- Parents contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points. They are kept very well informed about their children's progress. They are encouraged to support and share information about their children's learning and development at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sharing of information between key staff is not always detailed enough to ensure that planning exactly targets children's individual learning needs when their key person is not in the nursery.
- Although staff provide good support for children who speak English as an additional language to develop their communication skills, they provide fewer opportunities for children to use their home languages in their play and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff share detailed information about children's progress and next steps in learning with each other
- provide more opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language, to use their home language in their play.

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.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and staff from the local children's centre during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Dickinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a thorough knowledge of current child protection issues and of the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about an adult or a child. Staff are deployed appropriately and ratios are met at all times. The provider ensures staff understand the confidentiality policy. The majority of staff hold first-aid qualifications and can deal appropriately with any accidents. Risk assessments are reviewed and implemented effectively in order to help keep children safe. The provider has an in-depth knowledge of the priorities for improving learning across the district. She has a comprehensive understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in practice. An extensive training programme is helping all staff to build on their skills and continually improve the learning experiences for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff very skilfully use a range of strategies to promote children's early communication. Sign language, pictures and props are used during activities to help children convey their wants and needs, and to understand instructions. Staff provide stories and rhymes in a wide range of languages so that parents can continue reading with their children at home. Staff observe and listen to children. For instance, children take the lead in imaginative play. Staff encourage them to think about the resources they might need. Staff are enthusiastic and play with them, reshaping activities to extend learning. Staff help children to develop mathematical skills throughout their play. They count steps. They explore quantities, such as when an orange is divided into segments. They encourage children to work out how they can lift a pan if it is too heavy.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide parents with a wealth of information about how to keep their children safe and healthy. Recipes are shared with them to try at home. Staff promote good hygiene practices and children's independence in personal care routines. Children enjoy developing their physical skills during outdoor play. They begin to identify hazards during walks and staff teach them how to use a pedestrian crossing. Children's behaviour is managed well using age-appropriate techniques and explanations.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They enjoy their time in the nursery. They are confident, make choices about their play and independently choose from a wide range of resources. They follow their interests and are keen to learn. Children enjoy learning about growth and change. For example, they find out why a snake sheds its skin. During role play, children recall past events, develop good social skills and talk about their family and friends. This helps children to be ready for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY336961
Local authority	Doncaster
Inspection number	1064893
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	114
Number of children on roll	128
Name of registered person	LHD Partners Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP525451
Date of previous inspection	5 August 2013
Telephone number	01302 768 002

Sticky Mits Childcare Centre registered in 2006. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7am until 6pm, all year round, except for all public holidays. There are 26 staff employed at the nursery, all of whom hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 2 to level 6. The manager holds early years professional status. The nursery provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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