

Little Monkeys Day Nursery

Oaklands, Braithwaite, KESWICK, Cumbria, CA12 5RY



Inspection date	22 August 2017
Previous inspection date	19 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The provider is extremely dedicated and passionate about providing high-quality care and education for all children. She has an accurate understanding of where the nursery's strengths are. She rigorously reviews all aspects of the nursery policies and procedures, working in conjunction with the staff team, parents and children.
- Children are provided with an outstanding range of activities to choose from. Staff motivate children extremely well. The highly qualified staff team expertly organises the well-planned environment to make activities extremely interesting and challenging. Children make rapid progress in their learning and development.
- Partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals are superb. Parental involvement is a major part of the nursery's ethos. Staff highly value the input from parents about their children's experiences from home. Parents are provided with a wealth of opportunities to continue learning at home with their children.
- Staff are extremely effective in helping children to manage their own behaviour. They sensitively help children to talk about their feelings and promote an environment that fosters mutual respect and trust. The excellent methods of communication between parents and the nursery mean children continually receive consistent boundaries.
- Staff's knowledge and understanding of the educational programme and how children learn is exceptional. Children are extremely well-supported, particularly in developing communication and language skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue with the already robust performance management systems that are in place and support staff to reach even higher levels of teaching practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke to staff and children throughout the day.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities inside and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as accident records and risk assessments. She discussed self-evaluation and checked evidence records of the qualifications and suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are very clear in their knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe and well protected. Extensive training and regular updates help to ensure the whole team has a superior knowledge of child protection procedures. Thorough risk assessments are reviewed regularly. They take account of each child's needs as well as information from other sources, such as accident reviews, to help eradicate any risks to children. Teaching is highly effective and, where needed, staff receive coaching and mentoring to help them improve further. The provider has high expectations of staff's abilities. She has identified that continuous monitoring helps to ensure the quality of teaching remains outstanding.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff plan exceptional experiences based on children's interests. Assessments of children's learning are carried out meticulously. Staff use their expertise to evaluate these and make the most of every opportunity to extend children's learning. Babies and younger children have a wide range of sensory activities to explore, both inside and outside. Staff consistently praise very young children for their use of language, repeating words to reinforce children's understanding and pronunciation. Older children help to plan activities, regularly referring to their 'planning book'. They animatedly search for bugs and creatures following a visit from an animal handler. A superb range of reading materials is available for children to build and extend on their early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff promote children's safety and welfare to an exceptionally high standard. Staff are extremely sensitive and highly responsive to the needs of babies and young children. Children play an active role in assessing risk and learn about the importance of preventing cross-contamination. For example, older children confidently explain to visitors the reasons why they need to wash their hands. Inspiring outdoor opportunities significantly enhance children's physical health and learning. The space is well organised, consisting of dedicated areas to keep babies, younger children and pets safe. Parents comment on the delicious, homemade, nutritious meals that are provided by the chef.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children show a deep love for learning. They make excellent progress given their starting points. They are extremely well prepared for their move on to school. Children are independent, self-motivated and have excellent social skills. Babies enjoy the close interactions with key staff, singing and enjoying music and rhyme. Toddlers develop their physical skills, for example as they balance on wooden blocks. Older children take a great interest in growing vegetables and talking to the pet rabbit. Children focus on activities for sustained periods and benefit from limitless opportunities to expand these activities in their own way.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371284
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1088051
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	91
Name of registered person	Laura Fradsham
Registered person unique reference number	RP515122
Date of previous inspection	19 February 2014
Telephone number	01768778192

Little Monkeys Day Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold early years qualifications at level 6 and eight hold relevant qualifications at levels 3 and 5. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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