

Little Ducklings Preschool

Park Lodge, Vibrok shanakiel Ilkeston Road, Heanor, DE75 7DR



Inspection date	31 October 2017
Previous inspection date	7 March 2017

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 are passionate about providing a high-quality early years provision for children. The effective self-evaluation process identifies strengths and areas for further development well. The staff, parents and children are involved in this process.
- Children make good progress. Staff use detailed observations and assessment systems well to track children's progress accurately and to plan for children's next stage in learning.
- The extremely caring staff provide very good support to children's social and emotional development. Staff have good relationships with children and have a secure knowledge of the children's interests and stage of development.
- Children behave very well. Staff are good role models and help children to be kind and thoughtful. They support children, to work together, share toys and learn to take turns.
- Staff form strong relationships with parents, to help to support children's individual needs and development well. Staff provide regular opportunities to involve parents in their children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not to extend challenges for older children, to help encourage further learning during their self-chosen play or everyday learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide older children with challenge at the highest level to help them make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with one of the managers and spoke to the children and staff. She and held discussions with the managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with one of the managers.
- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children and the quality of teaching during a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took account of the views of those parents and carers spoken to on the day and through written statements.
- The inspector discussed the children's progress, and planning with the key persons and managers. She also, discussed the staff's suitability and qualifications and the pre-school's action plan.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management and staff work well as a team and have made significant improvements since the previous inspection. Staff benefit from effective support to their ongoing development, to help improve their teaching skills and outcomes for children. For example, staff have attended training to help improve their support of children's speaking skills. Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard children's welfare. They are vigilant about signs that may lead them to be concerned about a child. Management recruits effectively and checks staff's ongoing suitability rigorously. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities or speak English as an additional language are supported well with helpful strategies by caring staff who develop partnerships with a range of professionals and other settings.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and have an understanding that children learn through play. They interact with the children in a positive manner and know the children well. Staff encourage children to be creative and to use their small-muscle skills well. For example, children explore pumpkins, scooping out the insides. The talk about the smell and the texture feeling slimy. Staff use this opportunity well, to promote children's speaking skills. Children share their experiences with the staff and talk about dressing up for Halloween. Staff teach children good mathematical skills. Children learn to count, recognise numbers, positional language and size. Staff enhance children's literacy skills well. They nurture children's love of books and encourage children to recognise and write their names.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Management and staff provide a secure environment. Children demonstrate they are comfortable and move around the indoor area at ease. All children are valued as unique individuals and staff provide sensitive support for children's emotional development. Management ensure that children receive a healthy and balanced diet to support their well-being effectively. They promote good hygiene procedures and encourage children to eat healthy foods. The key-person system works well to help children settle quickly and to support their ongoing development. Staff make very good use of the local community to support children's awareness of similarities and differences.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress given their starting points. Children have positive attitudes towards their learning and are gaining good social skills in readiness for their move on to school and future learning. They listen, concentrate and are willing to try new opportunities. Children are confident, independent and demonstrate increasing abilities to communicate their feelings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY491367
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1088456
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	36
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Little Ducklings Pre School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP907029
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2017
Telephone number	07903896680

Little Ducklings Preschool registered in 2015. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff, including the managers, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school supports children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, all year round except for the week between Christmas and New Year and bank holidays. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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