

Little Academy Nursery

Tipton Sports Academy, Wednesbury Oak Road, TIPTON, West Midlands, DY4 0BS



Inspection date

5 December 2017

Previous inspection date

22 June 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

- Since the last inspection, managers have worked with the local authority to address previous actions. They have made good progress and raised the quality of the nursery.
- Staff are nurturing and attentive to children's needs. They encourage children to follow routines and manage simple tasks to develop their independence skills. This is a particular strength in the nursery, which supports children to develop future life skills.
- Children eagerly explore the stimulating and challenging activities that match their individual learning needs and interests. Children are excited and motivated to learn.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Effective two-way flow of information between the staff and parents means children benefit from continuity in their care and learning.
- Staff are good role models and use effective strategies to manage children's behaviour. Children behave well, take turns, share and play cooperatively together. This helps to create a positive environment for children to play and learn in.
- The manager has built a close-knit team, which demonstrates a strong commitment to provide the best-possible experiences for the children in their care. They work closely together and support each other to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not sharply focus on monitoring staff practices to help raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- Staff do not make the most of all opportunities to help children to extend their thinking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice to identify more precisely how to target support for individual staff to raise the quality of the teaching even further
- make the most of all opportunities to extend children's thinking skills, so that they make the best-possible progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the deputy manager. She observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with Children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers. She looked at relevant documentation, evidence of suitability of staff working in the nursery and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of written feedback provided during the inspection.

Inspector

Rupinder Phullar

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers have acted swiftly to address actions set at the last inspection. They have implemented clear improvement plans to help them, to continue to raise the quality of the provision. Leaders and managers have ensured that they now have appropriate qualified paediatric first aiders in the nursery at all times. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have attended child protection training, including issues in line with the 'Prevent' duty guidance. Managers and staff meet regularly to review their practice. They use these opportunities to test staffs' understanding of the signs of abuse and neglect. Staff now have a secure understanding of the nursery's safeguarding policy and the procedures that they should follow to report any concerns. Effective procedures for recruitment and induction help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Managers track the progress children make to identify and address any gaps in children's learning. Parents comment that they are very happy with the activities on offer and progress their children make.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know how children learn. They plan a wide range of activities that capture children's interests and helps them to develop a positive attitude to their learning. Older children follow instructions well, for example, as they thread various spools. Younger children thoroughly enjoy exploring different textures, such as foam and paint. Staff help children learn to build on their awareness of similarities, size, and matching. They use these kinds of opportunities to help children to recognise colours, shapes, and explore the letters and sounds of the alphabet. Children strengthen their developing mathematical skills. Their perseverance and motivation are encouraged by the involvement of staff who follow children's lead and model the use of language very well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Through their interactions with the staff, children show that they are settled. Children relish the praise they receive for their efforts and achievements. This effectively helps to raise children's confidence and build their self-esteem. Children make choices in their own play from a range of activities that are on offer. Staff check all areas of the nursery and minimise any hazards to children. Children enjoy healthy snacks and nutritious meals, which the nursery provides. They have opportunities for exercise and fresh air in the outdoor play area. Staff support children's health and physical well-being effectively.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are sociable and emotionally very secure. They are inquisitive and have a real desire to learn. Children are confident communicators and competently share their views with others. They express their creativity in different ways. For example, children eagerly join in during action songs and dance to familiar nursery rhymes. Children literacy skills are developing well. For example, they listen to stories and see print in the environment. Children make good progress and gain the key skills that they need for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366156
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1108089
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	17
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Elaine Willan
Registered person unique reference number	RP908726
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2017
Telephone number	01215673334

Little Academy Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery employs seven staff. Of these, five hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and two at level 2. The nursery opens Monday to Thursday, from 7.45am to 6pm, and Friday from 7.45am to 5.30pm, all year round except for bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education to two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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