

Little Munchkins Childcare

Chard Young Peoples Centre, Essex Close, Chard, Somerset, TA20 1RH



Inspection date	8 January 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff use assessments, tracking and knowledge of children's interests effectively to plan a broad range of activities across the areas of learning. Children, including those learning English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs (SEN), make good progress from their starting points.
- The management team supports staff well in their professional development, which helps encourage consistency in the quality of teaching. For example, staff share information from equality training to encourage inclusion and develop children's understanding of diversity.
- Children show great curiosity, especially in exploring how things work. Staff provide good commentary to their actions, which helps children make connections and develops their communication and language skills effectively.
- Staff gather detailed information from parents when children start at the setting. Children form strong relationships with familiar adults who meet their care needs efficiently.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation and pace of group times do not always encourage children to make choices and be more actively involved in their learning.
- Staff miss some opportunities to support older and most-able children to recognise numbers to extend their mathematical skills even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the organisation and pace of group times to encourage children to make choices and be more involved in their learning
- provide further opportunities for older and most-able children to recognise numerals to support their mathematical development even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions as children played inside and outside and discussed their learning.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager/owner.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records, the nursery's self-evaluation and staff suitability records.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The owners/managers and staff have a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures and understand their responsibility to report any concerns about a child. The owners/managers follow rigorous procedures to ensure staff are suitable for their role. All staff evaluate the provision successfully and have a good understanding of how to improve outcomes for children. For example, they have identified the need to involve parents more fully in providing feedback about the service they provide. Staff work closely with other early years settings. In particular, staff provide consistency for children who have SEN, for example, using 'now and next' boards and visual timelines to support their emotional well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff reflect well on their practice and build on what children know and can do. They follow children's ideas and interests effectively. For example, noting children's interest in the dinosaurs, staff spontaneously challenge their learning further by hiding the dinosaurs and encouraging children to listen to instructions to find them. Staff introduce positional language to help children's understanding and explore early calculation with children effectively. Older children develop their physical skills well, for example, as they use a range of tools to manipulate the dough to create imaginatively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident, behave well and build strong friendships. Older children willingly take turns, such as to throw the dice in group games. Babies demonstrate they feel emotionally secure. They engage well with familiar adults to help achieve a goal, such as dressing soft toys, and participate in social interactions. Staff provide welcoming and well-resourced play spaces for children to explore independently. They show children respect, giving them time to finish activities and to save their creations. Children gain a good understanding of hygiene. For instance, they know why they need to wash their hands before they eat. Staff provide good explanations to help children understand safe practices, for example, why they need to sit properly on chairs while they are eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they require for their future learning, including those to help prepare them for school. They develop good independence. For example, older children relish the responsibility of completing tasks, such as preparing the fruit for snack. Babies show self-awareness. For example, they say their name and point to themselves when they see their reflection. Babies babble, imitate words and use pointing to communicate effectively. Older children participate in discussions and talk about their lives and experiences confidently. They listen well to stories and recite familiar phrases.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496818
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1035196
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	30
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Little Munchkins Childcare C.I.C
Registered person unique reference number	RP535091
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07935 975219

Little Munchkins Childcare registered in 2015. It operates from the Young Peoples Centre in Chard, Somerset. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am until 5.30pm throughout the year, except bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The owners/managers hold appropriate early years qualifications; one holds early years professional status and the other a relevant childcare qualification at level 5. They employ three members of staff; of whom, one holds an early years qualification at level 5 and two hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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