

University Of Chester - Kingsway Buildings Nursery

Kingsway, Newton, Chester, CH2 2LB



Inspection date

14 February 2018

Previous inspection date

30 September 2014

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

- Leaders accurately evaluate the quality of the nursery and identify relevant priorities for improvement. They make good use of parental feedback and what they know about children's interests to develop the nursery.
- Staff successfully engage parents in their children's learning. They use a variety of strategies, including stay-and-play sessions, parent meetings and home learning packs to help parents effectively support children's development.
- Children behave well. Staff use praise and encouragement effectively to develop children's understanding of positive behaviour. Children respond well to adults and listen to instructions.
- Children progress well from their individual starting points. They develop a range of skills that helps to prepare them for their future learning and the eventual move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not meticulously plan activities to ensure that children's concentration is promoted as effectively as possible.
- Children's thinking and problem-solving skills are not always effectively supported by staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen the focus on how planned activities are carried out to promote children's concentration as effectively as possible
- develop the strategies to support children's thinking and problem-solving skills more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childcare purposes.
- The inspector met with parents and reviewed their written feedback.
- The inspector met with the provider and manager. She discussed and reviewed relevant documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability, qualifications and children's records.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas. She jointly evaluated the quality of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Lauren Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their responsibilities and are aware of wider child protection issues. Leaders monitor children's learning well. Staff quickly identify areas where children may require support or interventions. Parents comment on the positive impact that staff have had on their children's learning and development. They speak highly of the long-standing staff team, including the positive relationships they have formed with children and their families. Leaders regularly observe and evaluate the quality of teaching. Staff engage in professional development to build on their existing skills. For example, recent training has helped staff to consider how they can use resources to further extend children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how children learn and plan interesting learning experiences for them. Staff regularly observe children and assess their progress. They successfully follow children's interests, encouraging them to complete activities or games to their own satisfaction. For example, a group of older children play imaginatively as pirates. Staff help them to dress up, build a pirate ship, find treasure and draw treasure maps. Children thoroughly enjoy going into the outdoor area to hide their treasure for staff to find. Younger children join in with songs and rhymes. They learn to count, for example, as they sing and act out number rhymes. Babies engage in a range of sensory experiences. For example, they enjoy shaking bottles filled with different materials and banging objects together to make noises.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy attending the nursery. They enter confidently and settle in quickly. Staff have created an interesting, well-organised learning environment and provide a range of activities that children eagerly engage in. Children have good relationships with staff and the key-person system is well embedded in practice. Staff know children and their families very well. They make good use of opportunities to celebrate children's unique qualities, backgrounds and cultures. This helps children to understand more about the wider world. Children's health is well supported. They engage in physical exercise in the indoor and outdoor areas. Children climb and balance safely. They enjoy learning to move their bodies in different ways.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their individual starting points. They communicate confidently from an early age and make their needs known to adults. Children learn to take turns and play alongside others. Older children have good social skills and use manners well. They begin to form recognisable letters, for example, as they label their artwork. Older children also learn about written letters and the sounds that match them. They enjoy writing letters and 'posting' these to special people in their lives.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY374291
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	1104784
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	40
Number of children on roll	56
Name of registered person	University of Chester
Registered person unique reference number	RP524129
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2014
Telephone number	01244 513 925

University Of Chester - Kingsway Buildings Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level two and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks per year, excluding bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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