

The Ducklings Day Nursery

115 Warrington Road, LEIGH, Lancashire, WN7 3XF



Inspection date	20 February 2018
Previous inspection date	15 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 highly inspirational management team leads the nursery with an absolute conviction that all children will succeed and achieve through high-quality and innovative first-hand learning experiences. They have developed a culture of only the best is good enough and have cultivated a strong mind-set of 'anything can be achieved' across this exceptional nursery.
- At the core of the nursery's success is the resolute view that the highest quality of teaching and learning is maintained at all times. Staff are dedicated to ensuring that every child reaches their full potential. Teaching is highly responsive and energetic. Children make exceptional progress and leave the nursery with a superb skill base in readiness for their move on to school.
- The nursery is a beacon of exceptional practice. The nursery has received many prestigious awards for their outstanding contribution to improving life chances of the most vulnerable children they care for. Partnership working is exemplary and links with parents are highly effective.
- The nursery's core values of love and care embody everything that the nursery does. The promotion of equality by staff has fostered children, who have a deep understanding of different families and the wider community.
- Children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs/and or disabilities receive expert support and make rapid gains in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to strengthen the already excellent systems for monitoring the impact early years pupil premium has on outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the 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

Mr Luke Thomas Heaney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The inspirational leadership of the manager and her unwavering determination to provide the very best for all children have resulted in this nursery being outstanding. Staff receive exceptional levels of support, guidance and coaching during supervision sessions and appraisal meetings. They attend inspirational training programmes which have a positive impact on outcomes for children. For example, a course around language development has equipped staff with a phenomenal understanding of how to promote early speaking skills through music and role play. Risk assessments are very robust. Accidents and injuries are dealt with exceptionally well and staff hold appropriate qualifications in first aid. Highly robust recruitment procedures are in place and all staff are suitable to work with children. Extremely rigorous procedures are in place for dealing with and responding to complaints. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an extraordinary understanding of all safeguarding practices and are incredibly astute to the possible signs and indicators of abuse. Self-evaluation is strong and improvement plans are of the highest calibre.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are inspirational and set high expectations for children. Children are immersed in deep play and the atmosphere buzzes with their laughter and excitement. Observation, planning and assessment arrangements are of the highest quality. Staff track children's learning and development with phenomenal rigour. Gaps in learning diminish at a rapid rate and children in receipt of government funding receive exceptional levels of support and make rapid gains towards the early learning goals. The management team is looking at further inspirational ways to monitor the already excellent systems of measuring the impact early years pupil premium has on children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Care practices are outstanding. Staff collect important care, learning and development information from parents and use this remarkably well to help children settle. A highly successful key-person system effectively meets the physical and emotional well-being of all children. Children behave extraordinarily well and show genuine care towards one another. Very robust systems are in place for administering medication and children receive an abundance of healthy and nutritious foods. Drinking water is readily available and children are provided with inspirational opportunities to be physically active.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly capable, remarkably independent and extremely self-motivated individuals. They show high levels of perseverance and determination and never give up until a task is complete. Babies giggle with delight as they explore feathers and excitedly play musical instruments. Toddlers enthusiastically explore dough, gloop and foam. They become enthralled while singing and clap with delight while dancing. Pre-school children show phenomenal levels of physical dexterity and skilfully write their names. They become engulfed in their imagination while searching for pirates in a magical ship.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY370719
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1125440
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	71
Number of children on roll	125
Name of registered person	Ducklings Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527362
Date of previous inspection	15 July 2014
Telephone number	01942 673297

The Ducklings Day Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff, of whom all hold a relevant qualification at level 2 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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