

Ducklings Limited

Bletchley Leisure Centre, Princes Way, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK2 2HQ



Inspection date

13 March 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

- The provider supports the newly appointed manager well to fulfil the requirements of her role. They have worked together effectively to establish good-quality provision.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents. For example, they find out detailed information about what children already know and can do before they start to monitor children's progress accurately.
- Staff place a high priority on helping children to settle and enjoy attending pre-school. They provide lots of support for children who are finding the new experience a little overwhelming. These children quickly begin to feel more confident to take part in the learning experiences on offer.
- Staff are especially successful at extending children's learning through activities that children have chosen for themselves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make consistent use of the information that they have about the languages that children speak at home, to encourage these children to continue to use and develop their home language alongside their developing understanding of English.
- Staff miss chances to build on children's developing knowledge of numbers and other mathematical ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to hear and use their home language to support their developing language skills further
- support children's developing understanding of size, counting and numbers to extend their mathematical skills more consistently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff indoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their understanding of child protection, safeguarding and first aid.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including policies and children's records.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders take effective steps to check the suitability of those whom they employ to work with children. They provide staff with regular training to ensure that they know what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Since opening, the pre-school leaders have established robust systems for monitoring children's progress and the quality of the provision. They identify clearly areas where they could improve further what they already do well. For example, they plan to make improvements to some routine times to improve opportunities for children to help and develop their independence skills further. Leaders monitor staff practice and teaching and provide regular training and feedback to support staff to maintain their good standards.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of each child's progress and plan a range of learning experiences that successfully builds on children's interests and abilities. Children are keen and inquisitive learners. Staff join children in their play. They support their developing language skills, for example, they ask simple questions and name and describe items that they are using. Children begin to develop their literacy skills. For example, they enjoy finding their own written names on arrival. They take part in lots of activities to build on their physical skills. For example, they enjoy playing with sand and water and using wheeled toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very kind and caring. They are attentive to all children and provide lots of cuddles and reassurance to children who are new to the pre-school. As children become more established they grow in confidence and are soon making their own choices about what to do, safe in the knowledge that staff are nearby to offer help if they need it. Children behave well. Staff promote children's physical health well. For example, they provide children with healthy snacks and plan times of the day for children to engage in more energetic play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and gain a broad set of skills in preparation for their future learning, including the move to school. They learn to make friends and to share and take turns. They learn to make choices, such as which song to sing with their friends when they all gather together as a group. They gain a positive experience of learning away from home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483940
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1009924
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 - 3
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	Ducklings Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910109
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	***07582506452 Fishermead setting

Ducklings Limited registered in 2015 and is situated in Bletchley, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The setting is open 9am to 3pm from Monday to Friday during term time only. The provider is in receipt of funding to provide free education to children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs three members of staff, all of whom hold relevant level 3 qualifications.

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