

Small Wonders Too

1-5 Atholl Street, Ashton, Preston, Lancs, PR1 8TA



Inspection date	16 March 2018
Previous inspection date	15 January 2013

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

- The newly appointed manager works hard to continuously raise the quality of the nursery. She values the views of all users as part of the self-evaluation process. The manager has recently worked closely with parents to adapt the nursery menu. Children now benefit from healthier meals that meet their specific dietary requirements.
- Children thoroughly enjoy interesting learning experiences during their time spent in the nursery. For example, they learn how to perform practical first aid, such as making an emergency telephone call and placing a casualty into the recovery position.
- Staff in the baby room provide high-quality provision for babies. They demonstrate high levels of warmth and babies show deep affection for staff through an abundance of cuddles and hugs. Babies are eager to explore and investigate. For instance, they crawl along large pieces of paper strewn across the floor and listen to the crinkling sound it makes. They develop good physical and sensory skills.
- Parents comment positively about staff. For example, they state, 'Staff are absolutely fabulous. The home-link sheet is invaluable in the sharing of information as a two-way process. Staff follow my child's current interests while they attend the nursery'.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff working with younger children do not give them the time they need to answer the questions they ask. This does not fully support children's thinking skills to the highest levels.
- At times, some group experiences are not organised highly effectively to help to support all children to focus, concentrate and participate more.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen staff's questioning skills, and give younger children the time they need to answer questions to help extend their thinking skills even further
- support all children to fully participate, concentrate and become more engaged in group activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the nursery manager, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff during the inspection. She observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery owner and manager. She discussed self-evaluation processes, looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Daphne Carr

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are clear of the action to take if they have any concerns about children's welfare and safety. Staff are deployed well. Children are supervised effectively, including when they play outside, this helps to keep children safe. Risk assessments are used well. Staff teach children how to manage their own risks. For example, they remind children to hold onto the handrails as they negotiate steps down to the outdoor play area. Any accidents are documented appropriately. Staff inform parents of accidents on the same day. The manager provides staff with individual support, such as through regular supervisory meetings. She ensures that they continually update their skills and knowledge. The manager and staff monitor the progress that individual and groups of children make well. Staff work closely with parents, other agencies and professionals to ensure that children receive integrated support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified staff complete regular observations and assessments of children's learning. Overall, they plan activities that children enjoy. Staff use information from training well to provide a stimulating and interesting environment for children. For example, they use open-ended resources, such as crates and see-through material to help to promote children's learning outdoors. Children use their good imaginations to build a den. Staff encourage them to learn about size, such as bigger and smaller. Children are keen to learn. They work out how many crates they have used and develop good counting skills. Children work together successfully as a team and show pride in their achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and enjoy their time spent in the nursery. They behave well and use good manners. Staff are good role models and help children to learn to share and take turns effectively. Children develop good levels of independence. For example, older children serve themselves at lunchtime. Staff encourage younger children to put on their coats and shoes for outdoor play. Healthy lifestyles are promoted well. For example, children enjoy trying out new tastes, such as freshly prepared soup. Healthy alternatives are offered if children do not like what is on the menu. Extra funding is used effectively to support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. For example, specialised equipment is purchased to help children to develop their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from the start of their placement. This includes those who receive funding, have SEN and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. Older children write their names skilfully. They talk to each other with confidence about how some of the letters in their names are the same. Younger children line up crates and walk across them, using their good balancing skills. They ride around on tricycles, weaving in and out of obstacles and negotiate the space successfully. Children gain the skills they need in readiness for their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449868
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1066066
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 - 11
Total number of places	99
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Small Wonders Nurseries (Preston) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531766
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2013
Telephone number	01772252212

Small Wonders Too registered in 2012. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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