

Inspection date	28 June 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 enthusiastic and dedicated manager works very closely with staff. Together with the help of parents, they reflect on the quality of service provided by the nursery. The manager is instrumental in implementing changes that have had a positive impact on the quality of the nursery and children's outcomes.
- Staff observe and make accurate assessments of what children can do. They use this information, along with their knowledge of children's interests, to plan a range of activities that is well matched to children's current stages of development.
- Staff carefully identify any gaps in children's learning and implement detailed plans to ensure that all children make good progress.
- Staff work in close partnership with a range of other services to ensure that children's individual needs are very well met.
- Staff develop warm, nurturing relationships with children and help them to settle in the welcoming environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have the freedom to continue with an activity of their choosing and sustain their learning, as daily routines sometimes interrupt their play.
- Occasionally, opportunities for children to try out their ideas, make decisions and solve their own problems are not recognised, as some staff intervene and direct children's play too quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of daily routines and provide children with more opportunities to enjoy uninterrupted play
- support staff in recognising the optimum time to intervene and support children's play, to help extend their problem-solving and thinking skills more consistently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed different activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact these had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She 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 considered their views.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The supportive manager monitors the work of her staff closely. She observes them as they work with children and makes suggestions as to how they can improve further. Staff meet with the manager regularly to discuss aspects of their role and to plan future training. Recent training in supporting children who speak English as an additional language has been used well to help children settle and make good progress. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff can identify issues which would give them cause for concern about a child's welfare. They know how to report any concerns to the relevant agencies, to ensure that children are well protected. Staff diligently check the environment for risk. They teach children to effectively recognise and manage their own risks. For example, as they play outdoors on climbing equipment, children hold each other's hands and remind each other to be careful.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff support children's developing communication, social and physical skills well. Staff encourage children to become involved in activities and talk to them, introducing new words to help extend their vocabulary. For example, as children work together to make slime, staff introduce words, such as 'sticky' and 'moist', to help describe the texture of the slime as children hold it. Children recognise their written name and attempt to write it on the pictures that they draw. They develop their mathematical skills through daily routines, such as counting at snack time and jumping outside. Children gain good physical and coordination skills, such as when they throw and catch balls with each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff develop close, caring relationships with children and their families. They are good role models who manage children's behaviour consistently to help them develop good social skills and positive attitudes. Staff teach children to make healthy choices. For example, children understand the need for sun cream to protect them during hot weather and drink water when they are thirsty. Staff provide a range of healthy meals and snacks, and ensure that children follow robust hygiene procedures. Staff develop children's understanding and respect for similarities and differences between themselves and others in a variety of ways. For example, recent visitors of African heritage shared food, traditional clothes and dance celebrations with children.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning from their starting points. Children are enthusiastic learners who share and take turns as they play. Staff teach children to count and recognise the sounds that letters make in words. Children develop the skills needed for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493970
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	1039233
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 - 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	The Apostolic Church Of Great Britain Trustees
Registered person unique reference number	RP534933
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0151 480 2706

Unity Childcare registered in 2016. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, one holds early years teacher status and two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from 7.45am to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for a week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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