

Little Saints Nursery

59 Halefield Street, ST. HELENS, Merseyside, WA10 2DW



Inspection date	29 June 2018
Previous inspection date	3 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 quality of teaching is excellent. The extremely dedicated and highly qualified staff demonstrate an exceptional understanding of how children learn. Staff plan highly stimulating activities, based on children's interests. They use accurate observations and assessments to effectively plan for children's next steps in learning. Children make rapid progress.
- An experienced, knowledgeable and passionate management team leads the nursery exceptionally well. Their enthusiasm and drive to provide the highest quality of care and learning for children is infectious. Staff are encouraged to achieve higher qualifications and meet their professional responsibilities to a high standard.
- Staff act as positive role models and their interaction with children is superb. Children show extremely high levels of confidence and self-esteem and their behaviour is exemplary.
- Managers and staff strive for excellence and implement meticulous improvement plans. The nursery has achieved national and local awards for excellence in promoting children's safety, well-being and good health.
- Highly successful partnerships with parents and professionals ensure the best possible outcome for every child, including children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop innovation in teaching so that children's motivation to learn is maintained at the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, deputy manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Val Aspinall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff have a robust understanding of child protection. They confidently demonstrate awareness of how to identify and refer children whose welfare may be a cause for concern. The management team strive for excellence in promoting children's safety and well-being. For example, they have achieved a local healthy setting award. Extremely effective monitoring systems swiftly identify where further improvements could be made. For example, children's progress in understanding the world has been rapid as a result of staff planning a range of imaginative activities. The manager and provider are aware that further innovation in teaching will continue to ignite children's enthusiasm to learn.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is strong and highly motivates children to learn. Children soon to start school receive targeted teaching in small groups to provide them with optimal challenge. Children listen extremely well and work together in pairs as they practise writing letters of the alphabet. They confidently sound out letters and are proud to show visitors how they write their name. Staff give a great deal of thought to how boys' interest in writing can be boosted further. Boys are keen to show what they have written on paper stuck to the underside of tables. The balance between adult-initiated activities and child-led activities is excellent. Children are busy and engaged, with skilful staff who know when to step in to support learning or to leave children to develop their own ideas. Babies enjoy exploring water with their whole body, as staff commentate on what they are doing. Staff working with babies complete specialised training to help them meet babies needs to the highest level. Staff working with toddlers sing rhymes, such as 'Five little ducks', to promote toddlers' understanding of numbers as they play in the water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's individual needs are met to a consistently high standard. Staff find out about new children from an extremely detailed 'All about me' form, helping them to swiftly establish warm, nurturing relationships. Staff provide individualised learning and high levels of support for children who require additional help. They work very effectively in partnership with parents. Consequently, children make fantastic progress. Children learn about healthy lifestyles as they practise yoga or join in cooking activities on 'Healthy Wednesdays'. Children confidently explain how to protect themselves from the sun in warm weather. Children behave exceptionally well and play very well together. They are helpful and kind, for example, they ask staff for a tissue when their friend needs one.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children catch up with their peers and make exceptional progress. They are extremely well prepared to start school. Children are very confident, independent and self-assured. They demonstrate enthusiasm for learning and an ability to stay on task. They learn to classify and sort items and understand simple addition and subtraction. Children develop confidence in speaking in small groups and are keen to contribute to discussions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446372
Local authority	St. Helens
Inspection number	1102410
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 - 7
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	82
Name of registered person	Fielding Leisure Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903514
Date of previous inspection	3 April 2014
Telephone number	01744808985

Little Saints Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 of higher, including two staff with level 5 qualifications, two with level 6 qualifications and one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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