

Appy Little Plums Ltd

2 Alma Street, Leigh WN7 5JL



Inspection date	15 August 2018
Previous inspection date	22 September 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The leadership team and dedicated staff show a strong focus and passionate drive to provide high-quality care and education. They have worked tirelessly to bring about vast improvements since the last inspection. All actions raised have been addressed and outcomes for children have significantly improved.
- Children are eager and motivated to learn. Staff are skilled in planning for children's individual needs and interests. They provide a range of exciting and challenging activities that enthuses and ignites children's passion for learning.
- Children's behaviour in the nursery is impeccable. Staff are excellent role models, demonstrating polite, patient and friendly behaviour. They support children to develop superb social skills. For example, children visit nursing homes within the local area and play collaboratively with the residents. Together they enjoy games, such as dominoes, and make play dough. This has a positive impact on children's awareness of others and the wider world around them.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff use very effective methods to share information with parents and promote children's learning. For example, they offer open afternoons and conduct home visits. Parents' comments regarding the staff team and the service they provide are overwhelmingly positive.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Improved systems to monitor and support staff in their practice are not yet fully embedded in order to develop their teaching skills to the highest level.
- At times, staff are too quick to give children the answers to the questions that they ask and do not consistently allow children time to respond effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for staff to share best practice and learn from each other to increase the potential of consistently delivering the highest quality provision and excellent outcomes for children
- support staff to enhance their questioning skills so that they allow children more time to think and develop their own theories and ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager, who is also the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's plans for improvement and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The leadership team has a strong vision for improvement. It heads a strong, loyal and dedicated team of staff who have a clear sense of purpose. The manager has implemented good procedures to supervise staff to provide a greater insight into individual staff skills and preferences for training. She recognises that this can be enhanced even further to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level. Staff have undergone a wealth of training, attending courses to further their knowledge and skills. Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of how to identify and report any concerns regarding children's welfare. Leaders closely monitor the progress of different groups of children. They scrupulously analyse data and facilitate interventions to close any gaps in learning. Self-evaluation is purposeful and effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and have a good knowledge of child development. Staff make accurate observations and assessments to plan for children's future learning. Children are articulate, active learners and are provided with good opportunities to develop their speaking, listening and physical skills. Babies enjoy exploring play dough and begin to use tools effectively. Staff play peek-a-boo games and introduce new vocabulary. Toddlers investigate the texture of sand and shaving foam. They make marks with their fingers, developing the small muscles in their hands. Older children participate in a sensory walk and intuitively use language influenced by the story they are currently reading. Children demonstrate high levels of engagement throughout their chosen activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are highly responsive to the needs of each child. Children receive an abundance of praise and encouragement in their attempts and experiences, and build lovely relationships with their special key person. Staff work exceptionally well with parents to support children's safety and well-being. For instance, they facilitate workshops around healthy eating and provide first-aid courses. Staff continually nurture children's increasing independence. Even the youngest children are encouraged to 'have a go' as they attempt to do things for themselves. Older children relish the responsibility they are given as they help to set tables and serve themselves at mealtimes. Children are provided with excellent opportunities to learn how physical exercise contributes to a healthy lifestyle. For example, they enjoy yoga sessions and peer massage on a daily basis.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thrive in this stimulating and wholly inclusive environment. They are confident, self-motivated learners who are developing good skills to support them with future learning. Additional funding for children is used effectively to enhance their development and improve outcomes. Children begin to recognise their name and use numbers in their play. They listen well and respond to instructions given by staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483066
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	10057087
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	95
Name of registered person	Appy Little Plums Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909634
Date of previous inspection	22 September 2017
Telephone number	01942 602 010

Appy Little Plums Ltd registered in 2014. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3, including two staff who hold a qualification at level 4. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7am until 6pm. It also provides before- and after-school care, from Monday to Friday. These sessions run from 7am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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