

Early Learners Nursery (Runcorn)

Lowlands Road, RUNCORN, Cheshire WA7 5TR



Inspection date	3 August 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Leaders accurately assess the overall quality of the setting and have devised ambitious plans to develop the nursery, using the opinions of staff, parents and children to inform their improvement plans.
- Children enjoy attending this warm, welcoming nursery. Children who are new to the setting settle in quickly and form positive relationships with their key person.
- Staff plan a range of interesting experiences to promote children's overall progress. They make good use of what they know about children's learning and interests at home to provide enjoyable experiences.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents. They regularly share information with parents and invite them into the nursery. Parents' feedback about staff is very positive.
- Children receive good support to help prepare them for their next stages of learning and the move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes do not fully extend children's own ideas and challenge their thinking further.
- Occasionally, staff do not make best use of opportunities to promote children's concentration and engagement during focused activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities to fully develop children's own ideas and thinking skills
- plan focused activities more meticulously to make the best possible use of opportunities to support children's concentration and engagement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childcare purposes.
- The inspector met with parents to discuss their views of the nursery.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors. She spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector met with the leadership team. She conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the nursery's action plans, policies, and evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications.

Inspector

Lauren Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The leaders and staff have a secure understanding of how to identify, monitor and promptly report concerns relating to children's welfare or the conduct of an adult. Leaders use robust recruitment and vetting procedures to verify and monitor the ongoing suitability of staff. Staff use risk assessment effectively to minimise or remove risks to help keep children safe. Staff work very well in partnership with parents and other agencies. They provide continuity in their approach to help children make good progress in their learning and development. Leaders monitor children's progress well and quickly identify and address any gaps in their learning. Staff are well supported to access training and develop their knowledge and skills, and gain further childcare qualifications. Leaders have also recently provided training to enhance staff's understanding of wider child protection issues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of children's skills and progress. They provide developmentally appropriate and enjoyable learning experiences that promote children's progress in all areas. Babies thoroughly enjoy exploring different textures with their whole bodies. Staff introduce simple words to support their developing vocabularies. Young children play imaginatively with dolls, taking their temperature and feeding them their lunch. Staff eagerly play along and children seek them out to join in with their games. Older children happily listen to stories read to them by staff. They enjoy reflecting on their previous experiences, for example, as they look at photographs and recall what they need to make their vegetable seeds grow.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's health and welfare effectively. Children learn where different kinds of food come from and the effects they have on their bodies. Children enjoy engaging in physical exercise indoors and outdoors. Babies learn to roll, crawl and stand in the well-planned learning environment. Older children confidently use larger equipment, such as slides and climbing equipment, with good coordination and balance. Babies respond well to warm, reciprocal relationships with staff, who know them very well and follow their individual routines effectively. Children are encouraged to learn about diversity and the wider world. For example, they write and post letters, and enjoy going on trips in the local and wider community. Older children confidently discuss and follow their 'classroom rules'. Staff praise children for their kind behaviour, for example, as children share resources without prompting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points. Older children confidently identify their name labels as they self-register. They begin to develop early writing skills and use different mark-making tools. Younger children learn to ask for help and take turns of popular resources with their peers. They listen well to staff and willingly follow instructions. Children serve their own meals at lunchtime, passing the dish to their friends, and use cutlery successfully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537285
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10059914
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 - 4
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Early Learners Nursery (Runcorn)Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP537284
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01928581881

Early Learners Nursery (Runcorn) registered in 2016. The nursery employs 12 members of staff. Of these, all hold appropriate qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 7am to 6pm for 51 weeks per year, excluding bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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