

The Lawns Children's Nursery



THE LAWNS CHILDRENS NURSERY, Hardy House, 32 Chubbs Lawn, Middle Path, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8BH

Inspection date	24 September 2018
Previous inspection date	19 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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

- The ambitious manager reflects successfully on the provision and takes account of the views of staff and parents when making effective development plans. For example, she has increased opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills further.
- The learning environment is inviting and organised well. Staff provide plenty of stimulating activities and experiences which consistently benefit children. They encourage children to choose and lead their own play independently. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children behave well. Staff gently remind them of the simple rules, such as sharing and taking turns. They teach children to respect one another and encourage good manners.
- Staff have strong partnerships with local schools and other settings that children attend. For example, they share detailed information about strategies that support children well.
- Staff share children's progress with parents effectively, for example, through parent consultation meetings and an online learning journal. They suggest activities that parents can do at home and lend books to strengthen children's learning further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not organise some larger-group activities as well as possible, to encourage younger children to participate successfully and support their learning further.
- Staff do not gain detailed information from parents about children's existing abilities on entry, to help them form initial assessments and planning more effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of larger-group activities to encourage further younger children to join in and to help them make even more progress
- gather more-detailed information from parents about their children's starting points on entry, to inform better the initial assessment and planning of activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities, indoors and outdoors, and talked to them at appropriate times.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager. The inspector met with the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection, to discuss how she monitors and supports staff.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their written comments.

Inspector

Petra Morgan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a strong knowledge of child protection issues. They fully understand what steps to take if they have a concern about a child's welfare. The manager implements effective recruitment procedures. She completes appropriate suitability checks for new employees and at regular intervals for existing staff. This helps to ensure those working with children are suitable to do so. The manager makes good use of training, coaching and supervisory sessions to develop staff knowledge and improve learning outcomes for children. For example, following on from training, staff have increased their skills in supporting children's good behaviour. The manager tracks and monitors individual and groups of children's progress successfully. She identifies and addresses any gaps in their learning quickly and uses additional funding effectively to support children's development further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff incorporate children's interests and next steps in their learning into planned activities. Older children concentrate well as they add toppings to the pizzas they make for lunch. Staff remind children about their personal safety and help them to use knives carefully as children cut the tomatoes. Younger children eagerly explore their environment. They develop their small-muscle control, for example, through enthusiastically squeezing and pinching play dough. Staff teach children effectively about letters and the sounds they represent. For example, they ask children what words might begin with the sounds of the letter shapes children find in sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn how to lead a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nutritious meals and snacks, and follow good hygiene routines. Staff are caring and attentive to children's needs, and children demonstrate that they feel secure. For example, toddlers happily seek out their key person for reassurance and cuddles if needed. Older children confidently engage visitors in conversation, talking about what they are doing and asking questions. Staff develop children's physical skills well. For instance, children use scooters and tricycles skilfully outdoors, and develop their climbing skills well at local parks. Staff use robust risk assessments to ensure that the premises are safe and secure for children at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

All children develop the necessary skills for the next steps in their learning, including their move to school. For example, children manage many tasks independently, such as pouring their own drinks. They develop a love of books and listen avidly to stories read by staff. Children are motivated to learn and make good progress with their speech and language development. Younger children join in with familiar songs and older children express themselves clearly. Children write their names and count spontaneously as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479731
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10076175
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	The Lawns Childrens Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533836
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016
Telephone number	01460 73444

The Lawns Children's Nursery registered in 2014. It is situated in Crewkerne, Somerset. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are nine members of staff. Of these, the provider holds early years professional status, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 4, five hold a qualification at level 3, one holds a qualification at level 2 and one is unqualified.

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