

Little Munchkins

Silverthorne Close, STALYBRIDGE, Cheshire SK15 2DQ



Inspection date	20 December 2018
Previous inspection date	27 October 2015

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children have a very good understanding of behavioural expectations. Staff have a calm and consistent approach, and give children gentle reminders to help them learn to value and respect others.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff exchange information with them about children's achievements, which helps to foster a shared approach to children's learning and emotional well-being successfully.
- Children's independence is supported extremely well. Staff communicate their high expectations about what they can achieve and children learn to attend to their own needs from an early age. Staff expertly support children to gain confidence and a highly positive sense of self esteem.
- Staff work collaboratively with other professionals to understand and plan how to best meet children's needs, particularly when they need additional support.
- The staff work well together as an enthusiastic team. They respond well to the manager's high expectations and desire to provide high-quality care and education for children.
- All children are developing the skills they need for future learning. Staff plan a broad range of exciting activities that engage children well.
- On occasions, staff do not make the most of opportunities to challenge and extend children's learning, to help them make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help staff to provide the best possible levels of challenge for children and extend their thinking at every opportunity.

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 of an activity with the nursery director.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the nursery director and nursery manager and looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector
Kay Heaford

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are very aware of the procedures to follow to keep children safe. They know what action to take if they have concerns about a child. Robust recruitment procedures and clear, comprehensive induction programmes help ensure that all staff understand their roles and responsibilities. The manager observes staff as they interact and play with children and has regular supervision meetings with them. Staff are well supported in their professional development to help improve their knowledge and skills. Careful monitoring of children's learning helps ensure that staff quickly identify any gaps, delays or strengths in children's development. For example, after identifying that attainment in mathematics could be higher, immediate steps were taken to enhance teaching in this area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's learning and development successfully. They work closely with children who have speech and language delay and consistently use effective strategies, such as repeating speech, using visual prompts, sign language and modelling simple sentences. Children enthusiastically join in with conversations as they learn new words and phrases. They show high levels of imagination, and speaking and listening skills. For example, while playing in the role-play area they discuss ideas for possible Christmas presents that could be found within the empty boxes. Staff engage children well and model mathematical language as children play with dough. They support them to use cutters to make large and small birthday cakes and to find the numbered candles to place on the top.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well settled and have developed extremely secure emotional attachments to their key person. Staff act as excellent role models and provide children with an abundance of praise and encouragement to keep them highly motivated and eager to join in. Children show high levels of independence and self-confidence in their own abilities. For example, when staff attempt to help them, they tell them that they can do it by themselves. Staff are highly effective in encouraging children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and being active. For instance, children have significant opportunities to play in the extremely stimulating outdoor area and knowledgeably discuss the importance of washing their hands before eating and after playing outdoors. Staff provide a wealth of resources for parents to continue children's learning at home and to promote high levels of self-esteem. For example, children enjoy taking a teddy bear home at the weekend and sharing photographs with their friends during circle times about their experiences from home. Children show exceptionally high levels of interest in the very well-resourced environment and enjoy learning a multitude of new skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who need additional support, make good progress from their individual starting points. They are keen learners and communicate confidently with adults and their peers. Children are self-assured, happy and seek out others to share experiences with. They know and can follow consistent daily routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441823
Local authority	Tameside
Inspection number	10072116
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 - 11
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	90
Name of registered person	Little Munchkins Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531365
Date of previous inspection	27 October 2015
Telephone number	07747627565

Little Munchkins registered in 2012 and is situated in Stalybridge. The setting is open from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. It employs 15 members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. There are also two managers who hold appropriate early years and management qualifications. The setting provides funded education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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