

Inspection date	26 February 2019
Previous inspection date	22 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 highly experienced managers share an ambitious vision of what they want to achieve for children and families. Self-evaluation is rigorous. Managers have an accurate view of the nursery's strengths and act swiftly to address any areas that need developing.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff create a culture of mutual respect, kindness and tolerance throughout the nursery. Children learn to embrace individuality and celebrate each other's similarities and differences. Staff provide children with an extensive range of opportunities to help them to develop an excellent understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own experiences.
- Well-qualified staff use observation, planning and assessment with great precision. Observations are evaluated with rigour and next steps in children's learning are challenging and purposeful. Planning is personalised to children's interests and provides them with excellent first-hand experiences. Assessment is used exceptionally well and any possible gaps in learning narrow at a rapid rate.
- Children who speak English as an additional language and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) thrive in this fully inclusive environment. Staff use their exceptional knowledge of individual children and work closely with other professionals to implement tailor-made strategies for each child and their family.
- Staff have developed effective partnership working and good links with local primary schools. Children are introduced to school routines, for example having lunch in the school hall. This ensures children are exceptionally well prepared for their eventual move to school.
- Additional funding is used extremely well to equip the nursery with purposeful resources and experiences, enabling all children to make rapid progress in their learning. For example, children benefit from well-being workshops to support their physical and emotional development.

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 the already outstanding strategies to engage parents in children's ongoing learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the setting's manager and special educational needs coordinator.
- The inspector held a meeting with managers. They discussed the setting's safeguarding practice, monitoring and self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records, planning and assessment records, and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She took account of the views of parents through discussions and written feedback.

Inspector

Adele Banton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The longstanding members of the management team are inspirational leaders. They are extremely committed to ensuring that all children benefit from high-quality learning experiences and excellent teaching. Managers have superb systems for monitoring staff. They source highly effective professional development opportunities that enhance the already outstanding practice. For example, staff have received specific training to support children with SEND. Managers ensure staff suitability through a highly robust recruitment system. Children are supervised very well and staff deploy themselves throughout the setting to ensure children are kept safe and secure. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent understanding of how to protect children from harm. Staff work exceptionally hard to engage parents in children's learning. They are continually developing strategies to further strengthen the already effective parental engagement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is consistently outstanding throughout this exceptional nursery. Staff provide an exciting learning environment that ignites children's curiosity and eagerness to learn. For example, children are fascinated as they learn about space. Staff introduce ice and warm water to help teach children about the different temperatures of planets. Children confidently lead their own play ideas as they create a planet using a wide selection of craft resources. Staff are highly skilled in providing opportunities for children to develop their literacy skills. For example, staff use flour for children to practise letter formation. Children benefit from key-group time where staff meticulously adapt activities based on children's abilities. These opportunities further enrich children's learning and support them to achieve the highest possible learning outcomes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff nurture and support children exceptionally well. They promote their oral health, hygiene and independence skills, especially during mealtimes. For example, children wash their hands, sit excellently at the table and clear their own plates and cups away. Staff have created purposeful displays which they use to engage children in thoughtful conversation. For example, children make links between their snacks such as apples and milk, and use pictures to discuss where they come from. Staff provide innovative opportunities for children to learn how to manage risks. For example, children are encouraged to risk assess the outdoors using a picture tick list. Children enjoy being physically active. They are fascinated as they listen to the echo of their voices in the water collector. Children problem solve while working together to transport water to the sand tray, as they experiment with the different textures they have created.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children show remarkably high levels of concentration and enjoyment in their play. Younger children spend long periods of time exploring the sand. They immerse themselves in their imagination as they talk about 'digging for treasure'. Older children relish in playing with real resources such as nuts and bolts. They learn how to screw and hammer which contributes to their small-muscle skills and coordination.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483340
Local authority	St Helens
Inspection number	10076340
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	59
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Precious Little Ones Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534068
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2016
Telephone number	01744 22021

Little Harvards registered in 2015. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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