

Little Nutkins @ St Thomas



St. Thomas Church Hall, Wickham Close, Keresley, Coventry CV6 2PD

Inspection date	18 April 2019
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

This provision is good

- Teaching is consistently good. Staff use what they know about each child to plan their next steps in learning effectively. Accurate assessments support a variety of interesting and exciting activities that engage children and help them to acquire the skills they will need in their future learning.
- Safeguarding is a strength. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities should they have a concern about a child in their care. They are familiar with new initiatives in child protection to prevent children being placed in situations where they may be at risk.
- Children's behaviour is good. They learn from an early age that their actions have consequences. Children are familiar with simple rules, such as 'kind hands', and learn to think about how others feel and how to play safely.
- Children settle well. They are secure with familiar adults who are kind, nurturing and support their emotional well-being. Staff have good links with other professionals to provide additional support where this is required. Partnerships with parents are good and parents report that they value the support of the setting.
- Staff do not consistently consider how they can further enhance some aspects of teaching, particularly to challenge the older, most able children.
- Although partnership with parents is good, the nursery does not consistently make the best of opportunities to work with parents to extend children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance even further the teaching for the older, most able children by raising the quality of challenge in their learning to the highest level
- extend the opportunities for parents to support children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff, children and parents. She observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records of progress, a sample of policies and procedures and evidence of suitability checks.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of practice with the manager.
- The inspector viewed all areas used for childcare.

Inspector

Yvonne Johnson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Managers have high expectations that all children make the best possible progress. They have a very clear focus on where their practice is strong and areas to improve. An effective programme of supervision and support helps to look at staff's future training needs to improve the quality of care and learning for the children. The curriculum is broad and covers the areas of learning for all children well. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Risk assessments minimise hazards to children's safety and well-being. Managers use additional funding well to support children attending the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is consistently strong. Staff make accurate assessments based on what they know about each child and use these to plan for the next steps in each child's learning well. Children learn about the environment, changes and differences they see. For example, when looking closely at pictures outside, children compare a bee and a wasp. They consider the different features of each body and how it looks. The bee appears 'furry' and the wasp is 'shiny'. They talk about how each one might feel to touch, exploring new words and sensations. Younger children are supported by nurturing staff who pay attention to each child's needs through a well-established key-person system. Children are supported to explore textures through sensory play. They use food and add flavours to see how it looks, feels and tastes. Staff know the children well and take account of each child and their stage of development when planning activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good, and staff praise children's achievements. Children learn about acceptable behaviour through simple rules and discussions that help them to think about the impact of their actions on others. They are learning to respect each other and show consideration for how others may feel. They play cooperatively and take turns. Staff are kind and children are happy at the setting. Children show high levels of confidence and talk about what they do and enjoy at the nursery. They are keen to show the new skills they learn. For example, children show how to 'hula hoop', moving their bodies inside the hoop to keep it turning. They learn about healthy eating at mealtimes and to choose food which is good for them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress from their starting points. They acquire the skills required for their next stage of learning and make progress from their starting points. Management provides additional staff time for teaching and extra activities that develop children's thirst for learning. For example, children learn about different languages through Spanish sessions. Children enjoy physical play and understand about their own safety. They skilfully balance as they cross obstacles such as tyres and small low-level blocks. Children are confident in exploring the outside area and enjoy their time outdoors. They access physical development activities and run, climb and manipulate equipment outdoors. Children use their imagination well and build a bus to take them to 'the seaside'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544954
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	10102618
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	Dewar, Sophie Natalie
Registered person unique reference number	RP906394
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07771823755

Little Nutkins @ St Thomas registered in 2017. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3, 4 and 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm, and after-school sessions and a holiday club are also offered. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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