

Marshmallows Accrington Ltd

1 Nuttall Street, Accrington BB5 2HE



Inspection date	21 May 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

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

- Children are happy and enjoy their time at nursery. They benefit from a varied range of activities which promote their interest and development. Staff have a good knowledge of each child and plan fun and challenging experiences, so that all children are motivated to learn.
- Staff form close, secure relationships with their key children and understand how to best meet their individual needs. This helps to support their self-esteem and emotional well-being. Children are happy and confidently move around the environment.
- Effective systems are in place to monitor and review the progress of all children. This allows any gaps in children's development to be quickly identified and addressed. All children make good progress in their learning. This includes children who receive additional funding.
- The provider and manager undertake robust self-evaluation which takes into account the views of staff, parents and children. This enables them to continuously develop and improve their service.
- Overall, procedures to improve staff's professional skills are good. However, professional development opportunities are not yet sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to a higher level.
- The manager is yet to develop purposeful relationships with other settings that children attend.
- Staff do not always gather detailed information about what children already know and what they can do when they first start at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance professional development that more precisely increases the potential to raise the good standard of teaching to a higher level
- establish purposeful relationships with other early years providers that children attend, to share information about their progress and provide continuity in their learning and development
- find out more from parents when children first start at the setting, in order to support the planning process from the outset.

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 with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's development plans and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager is passionate and dedicated and has a strong vision for improvement. She has a clear sense of purpose that is shared by the deputy and the staff team as a whole. Safeguarding is effective. All staff know how to identify any possible concerns about a child's welfare and report these to the relevant agencies. Furthermore, staff have attended training to support and strengthen their knowledge of safeguarding issues. Staff accurately record any accidents and medication requirements. They carry out detailed risk assessments, maintain adult-to-child ratios and are deployed well to help ensure children's safety. Staff have regular opportunities to discuss their practice through supervision meetings and are observed frequently by the management team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children flourish in this warm and welcoming nursery. They eagerly explore and play, displaying emerging levels of independence and self-confidence. Well-qualified staff regularly observe children. They effectively use their observations to plan individual next steps in children's learning. Babies enjoy sharing familiar stories and songs with staff. They complete simple jigsaw puzzles as they develop their problem-solving skills and hand-to-eye coordination. Toddlers enjoy pretending to be doctors. They use bandages and write 'prescriptions', and operate programmable toys as they 'write up' their notes. Pre-school children make marks for a purpose. They draw shapes and numbers and master the use of scissors as they cut out their drawings. Staff skilfully question children, asking them to talk about what they are doing and why. This helps to support children's emerging language skills so that they become skilful communicators.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show consideration towards each other and form strong friendships. They are well behaved and polite. Children learn to make decisions and select their own activities. They follow the nursery rules well and know that these are in place for their own safety. Staff are positive role models for the children and have high expectations of them. Children take part in very good outdoor experiences that support their physical well-being effectively. For example, young children balance on crates and planks, and older children operate wheeled toys, negotiating the space available. Staff support children to take safe, controlled risks and offer an abundance of praise for their efforts and achievements. Children learn about good hygiene procedures and leading healthy lifestyles. They are encouraged to independently wash their hands and blow their own nose.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and are acquiring the skills needed in readiness for school. Young children learn to play cooperatively alongside each other as they share resources and take turns. Older children begin to learn about letter sounds and write familiar letters from their names. Children use mathematical language as they play, counting objects, comparing quantities and solving simple problems.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551457
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10106811
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	51
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Marshmallows (Accrington) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP551456
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01254 879990

Marshmallows Accrington Ltd registered in 2017. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. 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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