

Little Quackers Nursery & Pre School

St James Centre Trust, Chapman Way, East Malling, Kent ME19 6SD



Inspection date	29 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

- The provider has a clear understanding of her roles and responsibilities. She has secure vetting and recruitment procedures in place to help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.
- Leaders offer staff regular supervision and support to develop their practice. Staff attend relevant training to enhance children's development. For example, they use sign language to help children communicate, particularly younger children and those who are building their speaking skills.
- Children make good progress. Staff know their individual children well. They use regular observations and assessments of children's learning to help plan for their next stage in development.
- Staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding. They know the signs that would cause them to be worried about a child's welfare and the processes to follow. Staff understand current legislation and guidance, such as the 'Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015'. They know what to do if they are concerned about another member of staff. This helps keep children safe from harm.
- Occasionally, staff do not make the best possible use of their deployment to help children learn more about managing risks.
- Staff do not continually support children's independence and understanding of healthy lifestyles even further.
- Children build their imaginations well, for instance, they use plates and shapes to create 'pizzas' and 'cook' them in the oven.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more consistent support for children to learn how to manage risks and keep themselves safe
- strengthen opportunities for children to learn about the importance of a healthy diet and further develop their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including evidence of suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children.

Inspector

Sarah Stephens

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders seek the views of children, parents and staff. This assists them to evaluate the quality of the nursery and provide better outcomes for children. Leaders and staff monitor children's progress well, including specific groups. They recognise any gaps in achievement early and effectively, and provide the appropriate support, alongside other professionals. Leaders successfully use additional funding to assist children's individual needs and abilities. For example, they have developed the outside space with activities that capture their interests, such as an area to explore insects and bugs. Staff form effective links with other settings to fully prepare children for their move to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff successfully support children's progress. They skilfully listen to their ideas and reshape activities to help keep children's motivation and interest in their learning. For instance, children bring flowers from the garden and they turn the dough activity into a 'tea party'. Staff develop children's communication and language skills effectively. They introduce basic words to younger children, such as 'water' and 'boat' to help them build their growing vocabulary. Staff read books with children, which helps them develop their literacy skills. Parents are very happy with the service the setting provides. They comment that staff keep them regularly updated regarding their children's progress, for example, through monthly reports and daily discussions. Parents voice that their children really look forward to coming to nursery. This helps to provide a consistent approach in meeting children's learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with clear guidance and explanations about how to manage their behaviour. For instance, they remind them about using their 'indoor voices' and being kind to their friends. Staff encourage children to share and take turns. They provide them with ample praise and encouragement, which helps children build their self-esteem. Staff successfully support children to use and develop their home languages, for example, they learn key words and phrases. Children move freely around the setting and make their own decisions about where they prefer to play. For example, children spend the majority of their time playing outside, which aids their well-being. Staff have secure arrangements in place to swiftly deal with any accidents or incidents. For instance, one member of staff in each area carries a bag with first-aid supplies.

Outcomes for children are good

Children prepare well for their future learning. They are happy and settled, and enjoy their time at the setting. Children are confident to approach adults and enthusiastically share what they like doing at nursery, for example, drawing, and using the climbing frame and slide. Younger children fill pots with water to pour on flowers, which helps to build their hand-to-eye coordination. Older children successfully develop their mathematical skills. For instance, they explain that they 'boinged' all the way to nursery to get there really fast. Older children build good physical skills, such as riding on scooters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY545707
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10099558
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 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Little Quackers Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP545706
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07557646499

Little Quackers Nursery & Pre School registered in 2017. It is located in East Malling, near Maidstone, Kent. There are currently 15 staff, 12 of whom have appropriate early years qualifications, from level 2 to level 4. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6.30pm, throughout the year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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