

First Footsteps (Anfield)

17 Oakfield, Anfield, Liverpool, Merseyside L4 2QH



Inspection date	6 June 2019
Previous inspection date	29 June 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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 newly appointed manager is very passionate about providing excellent care and education for children. She has taken positive steps to address actions from the last inspection. The manager has undertaken ongoing and accurate self-evaluation which supports continual improvement.
- Staff observe children during play. They use their assessment and knowledge of children's interests to plan a range of interesting learning opportunities both inside and outdoors.
- Transition is extremely well planned throughout the setting. Children are supported by their key person when they move rooms. When children are ready for school, they receive visits from their class teacher. They also visit their new school with their key person.
- Children who prefer to learn outdoors are well supported. Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to develop their physical skills, for example while balancing on crates. Children learn about the natural world. They talk about what things they need to grow and to stay alive. This supports their understanding of the world and healthy lifestyles.
- Staff receive regular supervision and observation from the manager. However, the outcomes of this are not yet used to plan highly effective continuous personal development in order to improve the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- Information exchanged with parents is not consistent enough to support all parents to be actively involved with their children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on the outcomes from observation and supervision to plan highly effective continuous professional development in order to raise the quality of teaching even further
- build on existing good partnerships with parents to exchange more consistently information which would help all parents support their children's learning at home.

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

Inspector

Rebecca Papaspyridis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager has worked in partnership with parents and external agencies to develop a robust action plan. As a result, the quality of the nursery continues to improve. Staff work with parents to assess children's starting points when they start at the nursery. This supports staff and the manager to track children's progress closely. Together they quickly identify any gaps in children's progress and ensure that children receive the targeted support they need. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular safeguarding training and know the signs and symptoms of abuse. They understand the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child. The manager ensures staff are deployed effectively. Staff and the manager undertake regular risk assessments to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work effectively as a team to plan exciting and challenging activities for children. For example, pre-school children come together to enjoy a game of 'Elmo's Bingo'. They count the spaces on their bingo cards, listen carefully and match and name colours. Staff effectively support language development throughout the nursery. Staff in the baby room use rich language which supports developing vocabulary. Babies watch the rain from a comfy window cushion as staff describe the different sounds. Two-year-olds listen to the sounds gravel makes in different containers and are encouraged to describe it. Staff know the children well and follow their interests. Children are encouraged to bring items of interest from home. Staff then plan learning activities which engage the children. For instance, a child who had an interest in flags brought his atlas to nursery. The children then created the flags of different countries.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. Staff are excellent role models. They provide consistent messages about the behaviour they expect from children. Children are supported to resolve minor disputes with their friends in a positive way. As a result, the environment is calm. Children are able to concentrate for sustained periods during play. Their independence is well supported. This is demonstrated at lunchtime when pre-school children confidently self-serve their own meals and pour their own drinks. Children are well settled in the nursery and form secure attachments with staff. As a result, they quickly develop as confident learners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Pre-school children are particularly well supported to develop the skills they need when they start school. For example, they are encouraged to write their own name on the work they have created.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY227324
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10085066
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	First Footsteps Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP521263
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2018
Telephone number	0151 260 5143

First Footsteps (Anfield) registered in 2002. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. 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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