

Lowmoor Nursery

Lowmoor Preschool, Evangelical Church, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 8AA



Inspection date	12 June 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

- The manager and staff team work closely with parents and specialist professionals. This helps them to build a collaborative approach to support all children's individual needs, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This excellent support helps ensure that all children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Children benefit from a well-organised indoor and outdoor learning environment. Staff provide a varied range of accessible resources and enable children to make informed choices about their play. For instance, babies explore and investigate sight and sound toys in the sensory den and older children help themselves to wild-animal and dinosaur figures in selected trays.
- Children arrive happily and quickly settle into their chosen activities. Older children comment that they enjoy attending nursery and look forward to playing with their friends.
- Staff are kind and caring and know the children well. Children develop close and positive relationships with staff who help children to learn about appropriate behaviour expectations. Babies and young children confidently approach staff for a cuddle and older children learn respect and tolerance for others. All children are supervised well and play in a safe and secure environment.
- On occasions, staff do not fully maximise opportunities to further extend older children's early writing skills and development.
- The manager does not yet fully utilise the systems in place for staff supervision to further identify ways to build on staff's already good practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend further children's early writing skills, recognising and building on the opportunities that occur in children's everyday play and activities
- strengthen the systems already in place for mentoring, coaching, training and supporting staff, to continue to raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff team are clear about their role and responsibilities for keeping children safe from harm. They understand the safeguarding procedures for reporting concerns about any child in their care and who to contact with this information. Children are supervised well indoors and outdoors, and effective security procedures are followed during arrival and collection times. The manager follows robust recruitment procedures and completes relevant vetting procedures to ensure all those associated with the nursery are suitable. All documentation and records are maintained. The manager, staff and committee work closely together to evaluate the provision, seeking parents' views to prioritise areas for improvement. The manager monitors children's development closely to ensure any gaps in learning are identified and help is swiftly obtained. Staff speak with parents to discuss children's progress and follow children's dietary needs and care requirements closely.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff teaching practice is good. Staff know the children well and the next steps in their learning. Staff share observations and assessments with parents to further support children's learning at home. Children have good opportunities to develop their mathematical development, speech and language, and social skills. For example, pre-school children play number games in small groups. They confidently recognise shapes and numbers, and engage in meaningful discussions with staff. Staff use their expertise to support babies' and young children's development. For example, staff play alongside children and encourage them to explore and investigate a range of sensory objects in light and dark dens. Staff build on what children are interested in and help them acquire new skills. For instance, toddlers learn to use glue sticks to create a collage using string and other materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop good self-care and independence skills. For example, from a young age, children learn to feed themselves, wash their hands and put on their outdoor clothing. Staff consistently demonstrate good standards of hygiene throughout the nursery, such as following nappy changing and handwashing procedures. Children develop their physical skills during indoor activities and while playing outdoors. For example, they enjoy handling and manipulating dough, and playing hopscotch and ball games. Transition arrangements meet the needs of all children and excellent relationships are established with local schools in supporting these arrangements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next stage of learning. They are active and inquisitive learners. For example, children enjoy searching for sea creatures in water and describing favourite wild animals, such as zebras. Children listen attentively as staff read to them individually and in small groups. They learn to how to share and take turns while they play. Children continuously develop skills that prepare them for the next stage in their learning and the future move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY558458
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	10112090
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	53
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Lowmoor Preschool CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP558457
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01697345549

Lowmoor Nursery registered in 2018. The setting employs 14 members of childcare staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager and deputy manager hold early years qualifications at level 4 and level 5. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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