

Inspection of Leasowe Nursery School and Family Centre

Twickenham Drive, Leasowe, Wirral, Merseyside CH46 2QF

Inspection date: 31 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and well cared for at the welcoming nursery. The environment is safe and stimulating. Activities and resources are organised in ways that encourage children to explore and be curious. Staff have high expectations of children. They teach them rules and boundaries and how to be considerate of each other's feelings. Disputes are managed swiftly and effectively. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Children's communication and language development is of high priority at the nursery. Staff speak with clarity and model words correctly. Children have lots of opportunities to learn new vocabulary. For instance, staff regularly read books and sing songs. They encourage children to join in and complete the missing words in phrases. Children are confident and enthusiastic to learn.

Younger children giggle in delight as they observe the effects of blowing flour. They comment 'it's windy'. Staff use this opportunity to talk to children about the weather. They ask open-ended questions that encourage children to use their thinking skills. For example, staff ask 'is it hot or cold today?'. Children explore the flour further using a selection of one-handed tools. Staff support them to make lines and circles. They add meaning to the marks by singing songs relating to shapes.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leaders and managers plan a curriculum that is broad, exciting and specifically targets children's next steps in learning. Highly skilled staff implement activities that are well sequenced and build on what children already know and can do. They work hard to ensure that children are having fun while learning important skills they need for the future. Occasionally, group activities are not organised in a way that ensures all children are fully engaged. This means that some children do not benefit from the high-quality teaching taking place.
- Robust settling-in procedures are gradual and adapted to meet the needs of individual children. This means that staff get to know children and families well before they start. Relationships are strong and respectful. Staff work tirelessly to keep parents informed about children's development and establish different ways to support them to extend learning at home. Parents are extremely happy with the quality of care provided for children. They comment, 'the nursery promotes a good attitude to learning and lays the foundation for school'.
- Staff are good role models. Children listen carefully when they speak and copy their actions. For instance, young children remind each other to climb up the steps when using the slide. Children are developing a sense of right and wrong. Staff are sensitive to children's needs. They use flash cards and objects of

reference to help children understand and move through the daily routine smoothly.

- Children's mathematical development is promoted well indoors. Children have frequent opportunities to count and develop their problem-solving skills. The environment offers challenges for children to sequence resources from big to small. However, the outdoor environment does not promote mathematical development as effectively. This means that children who prefer to learn outdoors are not fully supported in this area.
- Staff are very responsive to children's needs. It is clear that children are at the heart of the nursery. Children have formed strong attachments to staff and are confident, independent learners. They are eager to take part in activities and demonstrate good levels of concentration.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is exceptional. The knowledgeable special educational needs coordinator provides bespoke packages of support to meet children's individual needs and help them to make progress. Close partnership working with other professionals means that children benefit from early intervention and a well-established care and education plan.
- The management team is strong and has a shared vision for high-quality, inclusive care for children and families. The team works closely to ensure that staff feel supported and happy in their roles. The arrangements for coaching and mentoring are effective. Staff are observed frequently and provided with feedback to help raise the quality of education to an even higher level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The arrangements in place for the recruitment and vetting of staff are robust. Staff's ongoing suitability is checked on a regular basis. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about the welfare of a child or the behaviour of a staff member. Staff are alert to the signs of children and families being drawn into extreme behaviours.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the organisation of group activities to ensure that teaching engages children at their individual level and maintains their interest
- build on the ways that mathematical development is promoted to further support children who prefer to learn outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY279600
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10066918
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	97
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Leasowe Nursery School and Family Centre Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP535201
Telephone number	0151 639 8923
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

Leasowe Nursery School and Family Centre registered in 2003. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm and employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. Two members of staff have early years professional status and two members of staff hold qualified teacher status. The nursery receives funding for the early education of two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kayte Farrell

Inspection activities

- The headteacher gave the inspector a tour of the nursery and discussed how she plans and implements the curriculum.
- The inspector and the deputy manager completed a joint observation and discussed how the activity supported the curriculum intent.
- Regular discussions were held with parents, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The quality of teaching was observed during activities indoors and outdoors. The inspector evaluated the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. Documentation relating to the suitability of staff was checked. The inspector also looked at paediatric first-aid certificates, qualification certificates and the progress checks for two-year-olds.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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