

# Inspection of Little Owls Nursery Middleton Laurel Bank

100 Middleton Park Avenue, Leeds LS10 4HY

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Inspection date: 19 February 2020

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
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The quality of education	<b>Good</b>
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Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Good</b>
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Personal development	<b>Good</b>
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Leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
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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**

Managers and staff provide a welcoming, well-organised and inclusive nursery. They value diversity and the unique culture of each child. Children are happy and settle quickly. Babies are greeted warmly by their key person, who provides them with nurturing care. This helps to support their emotional development well. Additionally, staff show sensitivity to young children's individual needs. For example, they give them time to wake up slowly. Older children talk confidently to visitors and engage them in conversation about the windy weather. Babies and children are confident to explore and show that they feel safe in nursery.

Staff are calm and patient and have high expectations of children's behaviour. They provide encouragement and consistent guidance to help children understand what to do. Children show high levels of self-esteem. They take turns when playing games in small groups. Staff are positive role models for children and set good examples as they eat lunch with them. Children are polite, use good manners and consistently say 'please' and 'thank you'. Their behaviour is good. Children show good levels of independence. Young children use cutlery competently and learn to manage their personal care. Older children confidently put on their boots and coats when going outdoors. They also pour their own water from the dispenser throughout the day.

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

- Managers are dedicated to providing a good-quality nursery. They work hard to ensure that each room in the nursery is designed to support the developmental stages of the children. Staff are swift to identify any developmental concerns in children. They work closely with a wide range of other professionals and schools to provide effective support to help children catch up in their learning.
- Staff interact particularly well with babies and engage them in playful games. Babies show absolute delight as they bang tins with wooden spoons and continue to repeat this when staff imitate their actions. Staff hold eye contact well and use a high sing-song voice to help focus babies' listening and attention skills.
- Children show good levels of confidence and imagination. They play cooperatively together, showing curiosity and excitement as they go on explorations in the garden. Older children collect small stones and proudly describe them as 'treasure'. Young children confidently act out familiar roles and pretend to feed the dolls with play food.
- Staff support children's physical development and health effectively. Children thoroughly enjoy being out in the nursery garden. They develop good balance, coordination and control of their bodies as they persist in climbing and completing the obstacle course. Children are enthusiastic and energetic. They

become out of breath as they run up and down the hill, chasing large hoops. Staff provide nutritionally balanced meals that meet children's individual dietary needs. Meals are prepared each day by the nursery cook using fresh ingredients.

- Children enjoy listening to stories. They show good attention and concentration. Staff read stories that are familiar to children. They leave space for them to identify the animals as they turn each page. However, staff do not sufficiently challenge the older children's memory-recall skills and understanding of the narrative. Staff provide a well-stocked library. Children and parents enjoy borrowing books to share together at home.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery and recommend it to their family and friends. Staff keep them well informed about their children's learning. Parents are pleased with their children's progress and the ideas they are given to help their children at home. Parents say that the nursery is 'a good place in terms of children's well-being'. They understand how to make a complaint should the need arise.
- Staff support children's language development well, overall. They regularly teach children new songs and rhymes. Children develop a good knowledge of songs. Staff involve older children in playing matching games. Children concentrate well on the clues that staff give them and correctly place the pictures on their cards. However, on occasions, some staff speak too quickly and do not clearly emphasise words for children.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers complete robust recruitment and check the suitability of all staff. They risk assess the premises to help maintain children's safety. Managers respond quickly and implement additional safety measures following accidents and recommendations by health and safety officers. They notify Ofsted of serious accidents and keep detailed records. All staff are trained in paediatric first aid. This helps them to act swiftly in a medical emergency. Staff have a good knowledge of the possible signs of abuse. They understand the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare or the behaviour of a colleague. Staff are deployed effectively and supervise children well.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- set specific targets for individual staff's teaching, particularly in supporting children's language skills with consistently strong practice
- provide more challenge for children's understanding and memory-recall skills, for instance when reading stories, to encourage greater progress in literacy.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	512410
<b>Local authority</b>	Leeds
<b>Inspection number</b>	10064256
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	56
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	77
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Leeds City Council
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP900804
<b>Telephone number</b>	0113 2714706
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	7 August 2015

## Information about this early years setting

Little Owls Nursery Middleton Laurel Bank registered in 2011 and is situated in Leeds. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, six staff hold qualifications at level 2 and 10 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Angela Sugden

## Inspection activities

- The assistant manager completed a learning walk with the inspector and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector had discussions with parents, children and staff during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held meetings with the assistant manager and the children's centre manager. She reviewed documentation relevant to the inspection, including the safeguarding policy, suitability checks for all staff, and accident records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of practice with the assistant manager.

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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