

Inspection of The Lighthouse Day Care Nursery

8 Warwick New Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 5JF

Inspection date: 26 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children attain the highest levels in education and learning at this exceptional nursery. Leaders and staff are passionate about their role in preparing children to be the very best they can be. Children receive excellent support in their personal care as they become independent. Babies receive individual care from staff who are kind and nurturing. There is a high focus on children's emotional well-being across all ages. The exciting and captivating environment helps children to flourish and their imagination is limitless. Older children make decisions about their own learning. Staff encourage them to follow their interests and support their learning with an extensive range of resources. This ignites their curiosity to learn more. Children have a can-do attitude to learning. A topic about the moon and space captivates children. At night children look at the moon. They consider how it changes each day and compare the change of size over the month. Younger children relish exploring as they engage in exciting sensory play experiences. They begin to mark make in paint while they use their large muscles to stand and balance. Children have exceptional levels of confidence and self-esteem. They behave impeccably. Children are introduced to routines from a young age. They learn quickly about what is right and wrong. The outside environment is very well designed. It provides space to run, exercise and learn.

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

- The curriculum is exceptionally well planned. It focuses precisely on the sequence of learning that teaches children the skills they will need for their next stage of development. As a result, children learn rapidly. A programme of professional support and training drives continual improvement. The team holds a shared vision for all children to make the best possible progress. The setting provides excellent support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Children's language is particularly impressive. They are introduced to books at the earliest opportunity. Staff talk and verbalise constantly with children. Younger children speak in full sentences at an early age. Staff particularly focus on language and model this expertly. Older children can sound out words using phonics. During a game, the children help to sort the 'messy box'. They have a letter clue to help them. They match a box with a picture to the letter, such as 'S' for 'snake'. In turn they sort the box. They sound out the letters and sing the jingle to remind them. Some children sound out very long words in phonics with great success.
- Teaching is highly effective. A unique assessment of children focuses precisely on what each child needs to learn next. Children are resilient and have very high levels of concentration. Staff use children's interests to keep them engaged. They help children to understand their emotions as they play as vets and care

for toy animals. Children complete their own 'pet charts' and practise early mark making. Early mathematics is a strength. Older children use technology. Children use stopwatches to count the number of star jumps they do in a minute. They learn about weight and quantity. Children begin to predict, add and subtract.

- Children play harmoniously. Staff skilfully introduce simple boundaries from an early age, which encourages an ethos of care and respect. They make lovely friendships and talk kindly about each other. In their peer groups, they create their own learning. A group of older children enthusiastically organise a play for the room. They use the face masks they have made to act out 'The Three Little Pigs'. They gather together the audience and children ask what pretend snacks they would like to eat, 'popcorn or chocolate?'. They take turns as the adult narrator guides them through the story. They know their lines well as they 'blow down the house'. They take a bow at the end to the applause of the audience.
- Children explore the wider world and communities. They learn about different faiths and cultures through books and activities. They recently took part in Chinese New Year celebrations. Partnerships with parents are excellent. They are extremely happy with the care and learning their children receive. They are included in their children's learning. Parents commented on their own enjoyment at being involved in the moon project. They receive regular feedback about their children's care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have developed a high level of skill in identifying the signs and symptoms that may suggest a child is at potential risk of abuse. They undertake regular training to keep their knowledge current. Staff are familiar with the local procedures for raising any concerns about a child in their care. Leaders provide staff with very good support in their roles to keep children safe. They maintain a clear overview to assist staff. Children are encouraged to think about their own safety. They learn simple rules for e-safety and what to do if they are worried. This supports them to keep themselves safe. The premises are secure. Effective risk assessments ensure that children play safely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349272
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10116296
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	The Lighthouse Childrens Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP526837
Telephone number	01926 427048
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2014

Information about this early years setting

The Lighthouse Day Nursery registered in 2007. It operates from premises in the centre of Leamington Spa. The nursery opens all year round, Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 19 members of staff, of whom 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications, ranging from level 2 to level 6. This includes the manager/provider who holds early years professional status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Yvonne Johnson

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspector undertook joint observations of practice at the nursery across the different age ranges of the children attending. The manager evaluated the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- A learning walk was completed with the manager. This considered how the nursery decides what it intends to teach children, how this is implemented and how children's learning and progress are monitored.
- The inspector observed activities in all of the rooms. She also saw the children experiencing different types of play in the outdoor environment. The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She took account of the views of parents whose children attend the nursery.
- A sample of documentation which supports the safe and effective management of the nursery was seen. This included checks on adults working with children. The inspector also looked at a sample of policies and procedures, children's records and journals.

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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