

Inspection of Little Rascals Day Nursery (Station Rd)

Station Road, Wellgarth, Crossgates, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS15 7JY

Inspection date: 22 March 2022

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 settled at the nursery. Children share a warm and close relationship with the staff and their friends. For example, staff and children enthusiastically encourage their friends to join them in their activities as they arrive at the nursery. This helps children to feel safe.

Children are motivated to learn and explore throughout the day. Knowledgeable staff use every opportunity to develop children's learning experiences. For example, when children find a frog outside, they talk about what it feels like. They then count the spots on its head and comment on its long legs. A child comments, 'He can come live at my house and eat spaghetti'. This leads to further questions about what frogs eat and where they live. Children are making excellent progress in their learning and development, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Children are immersed in a language-rich environment. Children are confident to talk about and share their ideas in play. They happily take part in well-planned activities that encourage their use of language. For example, children find the animals and their matching home as they sing 'Old MacDonald has a Farm'. Children demonstrate very good language and communication skills.

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

- Staff have high expectations of the children and support them to make good progress in their learning and development. Additional funding is used very well to ensure that children have every opportunity to reduce any gaps in learning. Staff quickly identify learning needs and provide activities to support these. For example, children learn to take turns as they share the use of two trucks, to paint tracks. Younger children search and find the hidden rabbits, excitedly calling out when they find them. This supports children to build on what they already know and can do, and further extends their learning.
- Knowledgeable staff introduce mathematics into all children's learning experiences. Children are learning to count and recognise shapes. They understand measurement from an early age. For example, children count the number of legs on a spider and spots on the frog. They match shapes to fit into a box and measure to see if the wooden plank will fit the obstacle course. Children are making good progress in their mathematical learning.
- Children have excellent opportunities to develop their physical skills as they excitedly play outside. They work together using a variety of resources to create a challenging obstacle course. Children confidently ask for adult support when needed. For example, they ask to hold an adult's hand as they test out their obstacle course. Children proudly ask staff to watch them as they navigate

climbing up onto the climbing frame. Children happily demonstrate the good progress they are making in their physical development.

- Children are developing good independence skills. They put on their shoes and coats for outdoor play. Children skilfully serve their own lunch and pour their own drinks. This prepares them well for school and their future learning. However, staff do not consistently ensure that children make choices and promote their independence at snack times. For example, staff give the children their fruit already cut up and pour their drinks when they could do this for themselves.
- Managers are proactive in their practice. Staff are given every encouragement to extend their knowledge and skills through external or internal training. Regular supervision sessions with the manager provide staff with the opportunity to gain advice, support and guidance. These can include safeguarding or child development issues, and allow staff to discuss their well-being. This ensures that staff are supported and valued in their roles and responsibilities.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents appreciate the regular updates from staff regarding their child's learning and development. Parents have access via an app to their child's welfare routines, such as sleeping, eating and activities enjoyed by the children. Parents are kept informed and their opinions sought when children are making transitions between rooms. This helps children to settle quickly and calmly.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team and staff have an excellent understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate when a child is at risk of harm. All staff, including apprentices, know who to contact if they have a child protection concern regarding a child or adult. Children are learning to manage their own safety. For example, staff explain how to navigate an obstacle course safely, checking they understand the risks and how to minimise them. Staff hold paediatric first-aid certificates to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to respond to any accident or incidents. This helps to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review how staff promote children's choice and independence at snack time, to ensure consistent opportunities in the daily routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	319382
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10230686
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 at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	110
Name of registered person	Little Rascals Childcare (Leeds) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908178
Telephone number	0113 232 6757
Date of previous inspection	10 April 2018

Information about this early years setting

Little Rascals Day Nursery (Station Rd) registered in 1997 and is located in the Crossgates area of Leeds. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one holding an early years teacher qualification and one holding qualified teacher status. 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.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jo Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector made observations throughout the inspection of children's experiences in the setting.
- Joint observations were carried out by the inspector and the manager.
- Children spoke to the inspector about their experiences in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and carers at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A meeting was held with the provider and manager. This included a review of relevant documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.

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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