

Inspection of Ducklings Childcare

145-147 Wakefield Road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 9AN

Inspection date: 27 April 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children feel welcome in this very inclusive setting. They learn about differences in people, respect individuality and develop empathy. Staff provide a very homely and caring environment. Babies and children visit the setting to help them become familiar before they start to attend. These visits are tailored to meet the individual needs of the children and their families. Babies and children settle quickly. They show how happy and safe they feel in the setting. Following the relaxation of the COVID-19 pandemic rules, parents now come into the setting to settle their children, talk to staff and attend meetings with their child's key person.

Children choose play resources and equipment independently. They show good concentration and motivation as they use scissors to cut boxes when making models. Staff have high expectations of children overall. They teach children how to hold and use scissors correctly to help them succeed. Children talk confidently to visitors and describe the 'jewels' they have put on their models. They follow staff's instructions and work well together as they enthusiastically tidy the bricks and balls away. Children help to create the rules of the setting and gently remind each other to follow them. Children behave well.

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

- The leader and managers are ambitious for all children. Staff are swift to intervene when children are not progressing as expected. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive excellent support. Staff use a range of strategies to promote children's development. Staff work well with other professionals to provide a shared approach to children's learning. The leader uses additional funding effectively to help children make good progress.
- Staff support children's language development well overall. They use intervention groups to support, develop and extend children's language. Staff introduce new words, such as 'absorb', and reinforce children's language using the correct pronunciation. Children speak confidently using well-constructed sentences. However, on occasion, staff do not consistently give children the time they need to think and answer the questions they ask to extend their skills further.
- Parents are very pleased with the progress their children make. They describe how 'staff go above and beyond to support their children's learning'. Parents are kept informed about their children's development through daily discussions, parent's evenings and the parent app. They attend 'stay and play' sessions led by staff and receive speech and language information packs. This helps parents to support their children's talking and learning at home.
- Staff ensure that children play outdoors each day. Children challenge their physical skills as they move in different ways across the tyres. Children run and

kick balls showing incredible accuracy. They also concentrate well as they practise their catching skills. However, at times, some staff limit the curriculum outdoors. For example, they focus on children's physical skills and do not consistently encourage children's development in the other areas of learning.

- Staff sequence the curriculum for children's independence especially well. Babies learn to feed themselves using a spoon and drink from feeder cups. Younger children drink from open cups and use 'easy to hold' cutlery. Older children use trays and drink from glasses. The cook provides nutritious home-cooked meals using fresh seasonal vegetables. Children's individual dietary needs are catered for very well.
- Children show good imagination. They concentrate well on using dough to make pizzas. They carefully roll the dough flat and pretend to cook it in the play oven. Children confidently state, 'I've made a pizza,' and share it with staff and their friends. Staff help them to count how many pieces they need and support their understanding of simple fractions. Children develop their understanding of 'halves' and 'quarters'.
- Staff read stories to children using an expressive voice. Children enjoy listening to stories about tigers. They display their memory as they talk confidently about the foods that the tiger ate. Children know that the person who writes stories is called an author. Staff share low-cost ideas with parents to help all children feel included and become their favourite characters on World Book Day.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The leader and managers implement robust recruitment, induction and supervision procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children and understand their role. All staff are registered with the Disclosure and Barring Service to keep their suitability updated. Staff are well trained in safeguarding children. They understand their role and the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare or the behaviour of a colleague. All staff hold paediatric first-aid qualifications. This enables them to respond to any accidents swiftly. The manager initiates fire evacuations at unexpected times. This helps to ensure that all staff and children know what to do in the event of an emergency.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure that staff consistently give children the time they need to think and respond to the questions they ask
- strengthen teaching in the outdoors to maximise children's learning across all areas of the curriculum.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2515665
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10206554
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Hannington, Lisa Jane
Registered person unique reference number	RP909776
Telephone number	01484 512136
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Ducklings Childcare registered in 2019. It operates in the Moldgreen area of Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 6.45am until 6pm. The setting employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two staff with level 4 qualifications and one with early years teacher status. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The setting supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Angela Sugden

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The setting leader and the inspector completed a learning walk together. She told the inspector about her intentions for children's learning, and how the curriculum is planned and sequenced for the different groups of children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the setting leader and discussed teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- Parents told the inspector, through discussion and written feedback, how their children's learning is supported, and how staff keep them informed.
- The inspector spoke with the leader, manager, staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The leader and manager discussed their action plan and evaluation of the setting with the inspector. They shared relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022