

Inspection of Little Looks Preschool

St Luke's The Evangelist Church Hall, Liverpool L4 4EL

Inspection date: 6 July 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 are happy and safe in this warm and welcoming provision. The manager and staff have high expectations and are passionate that all children make good progress. As a result, children are motivated to learn in the spacious, well-planned environment. Children are well behaved, challenge themselves and have a positive attitude to learning. The setting has access to a bright church hall and children are eager to further their knowledge of living things in a natural garden. Throughout the day, the children sing songs, delight in discovering facts about the world around them, and follow familiar routines. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, children's access to outdoor spaces was limited, so staff plan many opportunities to access nearby green spaces. Regular trips to the local park enhance children's social skills and foster their knowledge of the local area.

Children are effectively supported by a key person who sensitively cares for any personal needs. Staff encourage children to manage their own care needs, and children wash their hands and put on their coats independently. The experienced manager ensures that any additional funding they receive for individual children is thoughtfully used to support their unique needs. Community links are strong and there is a friendly atmosphere, which gives the setting a strong sense of belonging. This is having a positive impact on children's progress as they feel secure and ready to learn.

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

- Children develop a love of books. Books are skilfully placed indoor and outdoors to encourage children to use them. This gives children the opportunity to develop their communication skills, which leaders have identified as an area where some children have fallen behind. The variety of books with flaps and textures are highly valued by the children, particularly those who have sensory needs.
- The manager and staff have valuable experience and knowledge of identifying and supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff have a good understanding of the needs of each child, and they carefully plan activities based on children's interests and what children need to learn next. For example, in the the designated 'calm-down' space, children are supported by staff to self-regulate their emotions.
- The setting celebrates different cultural identities. This is done through providing resources and talking to the children about their different backgrounds and home languages, such as Italian and Spanish. Parents speak highly of the care and welcome that they and their children receive. They also feel they are safe in the setting. However, strategies to engage all parents in their child's learning on an ongoing basis, so they have a deep understanding of how to support their

child's development at home, are not yet fully developed.

- The setting is a key source of support for families in the community. Leaders and staff work closely with Everton Football Club and other community groups and services to help improve their outcomes. They provide sessions around eating a nutritious diet and model the importance of physical exercise and healthy eating, starting with a good breakfast at pre-school if needed. This helps to teach children that food contributes to good health and overall development.
- The setting is planned and organised to ensure that all children are able to access the well-designed curriculum and have their needs met. This supports children's development well in all areas. There are a variety of resources for all children, including those who need visual reminders or extra support with small- and large-muscle skills. A daily sensory circuit is available throughout the day for all children, which contributes to children's physical development and emotional well-being.
- Children are focused on their learning for a long period of time. For example, while having the freedom to explore outside in the mud looking for insects, they remain engaged and safely make their own risk assessments. Staff play alongside the children and support their learning. They help them to develop new skills, such as using magnifying glasses to study the insects, and help to answer children's questions about living things using a range of information books. Staff encourage children to repeat new vocabulary and remember facts in follow-up activities or conversations.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children's welfare. All staff regularly complete safeguarding and prevent training. They have a secure understanding of what to do if they have a concern about a child and risk assessments are carried out daily. There is a monthly fire drill and children are encouraged to line up safely and take on board instructions. There are safer recruitment procedures in place and staff are deployed well so that children are supported at all times.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop effective parental engagement strategies that promote communication and active involvement in children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2542991
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10215413
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Cameron, Lisa
Registered person unique reference number	2542990
Telephone number	0151 530 4756
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Looks Preschool opened in 2015 and re-registered in 2019. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. On Monday, Tuesday and Friday they are open from 9.15am to 2.15pm and on Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15am to 12.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sandra Hamilton

Inspection activities

- The nominated individual joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked about the curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- Staff views were taken into account as the inspector talked to them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the nominated individual.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision.
- The inspector observed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- This was the first routine inspection that the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and took that into account in their evaluation of 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.

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