

Inspection of Littleways Daisy Bank

Daisy Bank Road Childrens Centre, 78a Daisy Bank Road, Manchester, Lancashire
M14 5GL

Inspection date: 5 August 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 settled in this well-resourced nursery. Babies move around the room, exploring the resources on offer. This helps them to develop confidence in their capabilities. Children maintain focus for long periods. For example, as toddlers explore ice sculptures during play, they gasp in awe as they touch and explore the ice. They are developing high levels of curiosity as they begin to learn about how things change over time.

Children's communication and language skills are well supported. In the baby room, younger babies use gestures, which staff respond to. This encourages them to feel confident with their communication styles. Toddlers are learning to develop an understanding of new words. For example, staff introduce words such as 'melt' and 'crush' as the children explore the ice. This helps to widen their vocabulary.

Children learn how to care for living things. They feed the resident chickens and collect their eggs each day. This helps them to build a connection with the world around them. Children also enjoy a healthy and varied vegetarian menu. They talk about how certain foods help to develop their brain. These meaningful experiences help children to understand about healthy lifestyles from an early age.

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

- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents state that their children are happy and settled at the nursery. Children take books and story sacks home to share with their parents. This helps parents feel involved in their children's learning.
- Managers work closely with parents so that children with additional needs get the correct support. They champion children's rights. This ensures that all children, regardless of their needs, make good progress.
- There are many opportunities for children to develop their vocabulary and understanding of language. For example, staff talk to babies about what they can see in the garden. Pre-school children have back-and-forth conversations with staff as they decide how to build a den. However, staff sometimes ask children too many questions. This does not give children the opportunity to process what has been said to them.
- Children learn how to express their thoughts and feelings towards others. For example, children recently learned about the story of 'Rosa Parks' and discussed how this made them feel. These experiences also help children to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.
- Children's independence is supported well throughout the nursery. Babies have access to a range of resources to support them to stand, crawl and balance. They have coracles to sleep in, which they can climb in and out of by themselves. This helps them to become eager explorers.

- The large outdoor areas have a range of open-ended resources for the children to explore. Children are supported to use these resources independently to develop their physical skills. For example, they develop their core strength and coordination skills as they use poles and pieces of tarpaulin to make dens.
- Children are learning about healthy lifestyles. The vegetarian menu on offer is popular with the children. They tell the inspector how tasty the food is at nursery, and that they like to have healthy food at home.
- The leadership team has a strong focus on staff well-being. A member of staff works closely with the manager to identify any worries within the team. As a result, staff feel supported and enjoy coming to work. This has a positive impact on children's care and learning.
- Performance management systems are in place to support staff to enhance the quality of their teaching. However, staff do not focus on supporting children to develop the progression of skills that they need. For example, some children are being taught to formulate letters, but they do not yet have the skills needed to hold a pencil correctly. This does not help children to develop their skills in the right order.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, which helps to protect children. They also know what to do if they have a concern about a member of staff. The manager provides regular safeguarding updates for the staff team. This ensures their knowledge is current and up to date. It also helps staff to understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

Children's safety at the setting is of the highest importance. Children take pride in identifying and managing daily risks in the environment. This helps them understand and manage risks within their play.

Children's health and dietary requirements are adequately met. Following a recent incident where a child's dietary needs were not met, staff responded quickly. They made changes to their procedures to prevent any further incidents occurring.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure all aspects of the curriculum support children's individualised learning
- utilise performance management systems to ensure staff teaching is strong enough to support children's progressive skills effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2533906
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	10206196
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	66
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Littleways Nursery DB Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2533905
Telephone number	0161 248 5889
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Littleways Daisy Bank registered in 2019. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 and seven hold qualifications at level 3. One member of staff is a qualified teacher and two have early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Walton

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 leaders and managers and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk around the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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