

Inspection of The Mulberry Tree Day Nursery

Mulberry House 128-130, Market Street, Wirral, Cheshire CH47 3BH

Inspection date: 31 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 arrive excited to start their day at this cosy and welcoming nursery. They separate well from their parents as friendly staff greet children warmly. Children safely explore the nursery environment with interest and curiosity. Children develop across all areas of learning through the varied activities on offer. They investigate the natural resources, carefully selected by staff to enhance dough-making activities. Children discover natural scents and learn about textures as they discuss the different ways to use these. Babies enjoy the thrill of sharing floor painting together and copy each other's actions. This helps children to create friendships and learn from each other.

Staff model respectful communication and encourage turn taking in conversations. Staff listen to children and give them time to think and respond. As a result of this, children learn to listen to each other. This helps them to have very good behaviour.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic staff have continued to support children and families with a variety of initiatives. They have introduced 'time for tea' sessions to encourage parents of the nursery and the local community to engage with each other. This contributes to a shared vision for a sense of community for everyone.

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

- The manager and provider have a clear vision of their curriculum. They focus on communication and language throughout the nursery. For example, children find their favourite stories and retell the story to staff. This helps children to build on what they already know. Children make progress in their personal, social and emotional development as they develop confidence in their own abilities.
- Staff know what children need to learn next and the best way for them to do this. Staff encourage young children to pull themselves up and move along the furniture. Children use their own judgement when using climbing equipment. This helps children to learn physical skills in a natural way.
- There are lots of opportunities for children to experience the local community. All children regularly go to the local beach, farm and park. This helps children to understand their local environment and have experiences that they might not otherwise have.
- Children persevere and concentrate in play. They keep trying while stacking wooden rings, and their friends clap when they succeed. Children learn positive motivation and enjoyment in learning at an early age. This helps children to make very good progress, and they are ready for the next stage in learning. This includes children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Most children learn to feed themselves and access their own drink by identifying their own photograph. Occasionally, staff are not consistent in their approach to

teaching children to be independent. For instance, children serve their own food and wash their own hands at some mealtimes but not at other times. Staff peel fruit for older children without supporting them to do it for themselves. Staff are sometimes too quick to intervene to do things for children that they are capable of doing independently. This prevents children from learning what is expected of them and hinders their independence.

- The manager and provider are very invested in staff well-being and happiness in nursery and beyond. They ensure staff are well supported and confident in what they do. Staff have access to an employee assistance program, have regular supervisions and staff events. This helps to create a positive culture where both staff and children thrive.
- Parents report they are fully informed of their child's progress and development. They receive information online and through regular parents' evenings and monthly update summaries. Parents say that their children always have an enjoyable time at this 'wonderful and homely' nursery. They can clearly see the progress their children are making.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have completed regular safeguarding training and know what would concern them about a child's safety or a colleague's conduct. They know the correct reporting procedures and who to report any concerns to. Staff are confident in what to do if they have any safeguarding concerns. The building is well maintained, and security is very effective. Regular effective risk assessments are carried out both at the nursery and on outings. The manager ensures she has regular discussions with staff about any concerns they may have.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support all staff to provide consistent messages to children when teaching independence and self-care skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY560356
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10233420
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	0 to 3
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	The Mulberry Tree Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP560355
Telephone number	01512165245
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Mulberry Tree Day Nursery Limited registered in 2018 and is situated in Hoylake, Wirral. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm, throughout the year, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. There are 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jasmin Sanders

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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector and manager undertook a learning walk of the setting and discussed the intent and implementation of the curriculum.
- The inspector reviewed comments by parents about their experiences of care, education and involvement at the setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector held discussions to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding processes, self-evaluation and training.
- Assessments of children's progress from their starting points were discussed with staff to evaluate the impact of the curriculum on outcomes for children.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation of practice.

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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