

Inspection of Playmates Centre 56

Centre 56, Rumney Road, LIVERPOOL L4 1UB

Inspection date: 24 April 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children demonstrate that they are happy, safe and clearly enjoy attending this inclusive setting. Children have secure and trusting bonds with the staff, who show an abundance of love and affection for the children that they care for. The dedicated and passionate staff know the children extremely well and have high expectations of them. They are kind, patient and nurturing in their approach. This means that children settle quickly, can engage in their chosen activities and have a positive attitude to learning. Children are confident and self-assured, knowing that their individual and unique needs are warmly celebrated.

Children benefit from meaningful experiences across all areas of learning. The curriculum is coherent, sequenced and reflects children's presumed interests and what they need to learn next. Regular observations and assessments of children's progress enable staff to plan activities that help children to flourish from their starting points. Children are developing their skills in communication and social interactions. They are learning how to use sign language, recognising that their friends may communicate in different ways. This means that all children have a voice and are able to express their needs and feelings.

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

- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is strong. Staff engage in training to ensure that they have the skills needed to support children effectively. Robust partnerships with health professionals and other external agencies ensure that children receive the additional support they need in a swift and timely manner.
- Support for children who speak English as an additional language is good. Staff gather key words from parents and use these alongside words in English to aid children's understanding. They use visual timetables, objects of reference and dual language books to help ensure that children can understand and communicate effectively.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well, overall. They are quick to intervene to ensure that children play safely in the environment. Staff are consistent in their approach, using calm voices and picture cards. However, staff do not always give children a clear explanation of why some behaviours are unwanted. For example, they simply say 'no' or 'don't do that', rather than elaborating to further children's understanding of right and wrong and the consequences of any unwanted behaviours.
- Children are learning the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They recognise the need to follow good hygiene procedures and engage in daily, physical energetic play. Children benefit from healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. They understand the importance of dental health and brush their teeth

daily as they talk about their molars and incisors.

- Children have plentiful opportunities to develop their independence. Staff encourage children to make independent choices about what they would like to play with. Children serve themselves at mealtimes and are supported to pour their own drinks. They show impressive self-care skills as they clean their own faces, placing their face cloths in the 'mucky bucket' when finished. Children are developing essential skills needed in readiness for school.
- Communication and language is a key focus of the nursery curriculum. Staff narrate as children play, which helps to give meaning to what children are doing and ensures that they hear a rich variety of vocabulary. Children discuss with staff what the word 'gloomy' means, during a story telling activity. However, occasionally, staff do not model the correct pronunciation of letter sounds and words, and children repeat what they hear incorrectly.
- Staff feel very well supported in their roles. They benefit from a cycle of supervision meetings and observations of their practice, where they are given precise feedback. This supports them to develop their practice further. Professional development opportunities are plentiful and have a positive impact on outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with parents are very successful. Staff carry out home visits for new children and gather pertinent information prior to a child transitioning into the setting. Parents attend workshops and are encouraged to take home 'learning bags'. They feel well informed about their child's learning and appreciate the support staff give them and their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff fully understand their role in protecting children from harm. The manager frequently checks their understanding through discussions, sharing of scenarios and spot questioning. Staff know the action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They know how to make referrals and how they should escalate their concerns if needed. Staff complete risk assessments to ensure that the premises are safe and secure. They deploy themselves effectively and ensure that children are appropriately supervised 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:

- help staff to recognise the importance of explaining unwanted behaviour to children so that they are able to develop an awareness of the consequences of their actions
- support staff to strengthen their understanding of how to skilfully support children's emerging communication and language skills further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443434
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10287262
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	2 to 11
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Centre 56 Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519505
Telephone number	01517271355
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2018

Information about this early years setting

Playmates registered in 2012. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above, including the manager who holds an appropriate qualification at level 6. The nursery and after-school provision is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5.30pm, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and one week over the Christmas period. The nursery provides funded early education for two- three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Cox

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.

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 2023