

Inspection of Little Folks Day Nursery

Edward Parry Centre, Coventry Street, Kidderminster DY10 2BP

Inspection date: 20 June 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and enjoy the time they spend at this welcoming and friendly nursery. Staff warmly greet children on arrival and help them to settle into their room. Staff are kind, caring and offer children reassurance, cuddles and comfort. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being and confidence. The curriculum provided interests and engages children. They remain motivated in their play and are keen to join in with the activities on offer. For instance, babies delight as they join in with playing the various musical instruments. They excitedly move their body to the sounds they make and giggle with delight when staff join in. Older children enjoy experimenting with water and food colouring. They show great excitement when they realise that they have made the colour purple by mixing red and blue together.

Children behave well. They show that they understand the nursery's rules. For example, they help to tidy away after activities and line up ready to go into the dining room for their lunch. Children develop their independence well. Staff encourage older children to pour their own drinks and tidy away their plates when they have finished their meal. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are making good progress in their learning. They are acquiring the skills to help prepare them for their future learning, including their eventual move to school.

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

- Leaders and managers have worked hard to ensure that changes have been made since the last inspection. The new manager has a clear vision for the nursery. She is passionate and committed to continual improvement. She provides staff with ongoing supervision, mentoring and coaching to help them to build on their current skills. However, new members of the team would benefit further from continued supervision, support and training.
- Staff plan an ambitious and well-organised curriculum. They use their observations and assessments to plan for children's individual learning needs. Children's current interests are incorporated into activities. However, on some occasions, staff do not focus enough on the planned learning intent during some adult-led activities.
- Staff help children to develop a love of books. For example, staff have organised a lending library where children can select books and story sacks to take home and share with their families. Children enjoy listening to well-read stories and join in with familiar songs and rhymes. This supports their early literacy and communication and language skills well.
- Staff promote children's physical skills well. Babies have plenty of opportunities to practise their walking skills as they cruise around the furniture. They enjoy

practising their gross motor skills as they negotiate the various slopes in the garden. Pre-school children and toddlers enjoy using spray bottles to dispense water onto the fence. This helps to develop the muscles in their hands needed to successfully hold and control a pencil.

- Staff promote children's good health. They provide children with balanced and nutritious meals and snacks. Good hygiene routines are followed at mealtimes. Children are aware of the need to wash their hands before eating. Staff follow rigorous hygiene procedures when changing children's nappies to ensure that the risks of cross-infection are minimised. Fresh drinking water is available and accessible to children. Staff remind children of the importance of wearing their sun hat when playing outside during warmer weather.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They offer children clear and consistent reminders about the importance of sharing and being kind to each other. Staff act as good role models. They reinforce the 'golden rules' of the nursery, such as to 'be kind', use 'indoor voices' and demonstrate 'good sharing'. This helps children to understand what is expected of them.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery and the caring staff team. They say that there have been noticeable improvements made since the last inspection. Parents value the daily updates they receive about their children's routines and daily experiences. However, communication with parents could be further extended to ensure that they are fully informed about the plans for children's current and future learning needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers have made significant improvements since the last inspection. All staff have a good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. They know who to report concerns to in the nursery and externally. Staff are aware of the 'Prevent' duty and the signs that may be displayed by those who may have been exposed to extreme views. Effective risk assessments are in place to ensure that any hazards in the environment are identified and removed or minimised. Staff maintain a clean and hygienic environment. They supervise children well and ensure that the nursery is safe and secure.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus more precisely on the planned learning intentions during some adult-led activities, to help children make even better progress in their learning
- share more information with parents about the plans for children's current and future learning needs to enable parents to fully support their learning at home

- provide further mentoring, coaching and supervision to the newest members of staff to help them to continue to raise the quality of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539961
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10278107
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	85
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	R & J Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP539960
Telephone number	01562861000
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2023

Information about this early years setting

Little Folks Day Nursery registered in 2016 and is based in Kidderminster. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 7, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, and three hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The inspector had a learning walk with the manager to understand how the nursery operates and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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