

Inspection of Little Wonders Nursery Ltd

Audley Centre, Chester Street, Blackburn BB1 1DW

Inspection date: 26 March 2024

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

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

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

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

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

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
--	------------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The manager, who is also the provider, has worked hard to address the actions raised at the previous inspection. The manager and deputy manager work hands-on and are actively involved in the day-to-day running of the nursery. This has enabled them to use effective reflection of practice and make the necessary improvements. This includes highlighting the training needs of staff. Staff are now much more knowledgeable and confident to deliver the intended curriculum. For example, they use their observations and assessments of children, alongside children's interests, to plan suitable activities that build on what children already know and can do.

Staff treat children fairly and with respect and have high expectations for their behaviour. Staff recognise that some children are struggling to share, take turns and form friendships. Therefore, they have adapted their curriculum to support this. For example, they implement small-group activities designed to build on children's growing communication and social skills. These include reading stories, singing songs and playing games that require children to wait their turn and make their predictions. These interventions are helping to close any identified gaps in children's learning and development.

The arrangements to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well embedded. The provider works closely with parents to ensure that children receive their full entitlement to early years funding. This further supports the good progress that children make. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents describe the setting as a 'family' and say the provider and staff are 'very supportive'.

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

- In the main, staff's interactions with children are positive and support children's communication and language skills well. For example, staff use positional language well as they play and interact with children. However, there are times when staff do not adapt their teaching quickly enough and provide further challenges when engaged in conversations with children. This does not support all children to enhance their speaking skills even further.
- The extremely supportive manager provides lots of appropriate training and support for the staff. For example, recent training to help staff further support children's listening and social skills is implemented well across the team. As a result, this is making a difference in the progress children make in these areas. However, monitoring of staff's practice is not yet robust enough to help them further improve all areas of their educational practice to consistently high levels.
- The arrangements for monitoring children's progress are robust. The manager

and deputy manager act quickly when they identify any children who may require additional support. They work in partnership with parents and other professionals to implement targeted learning plans that support children's individual next steps and help them catch up to their peers. As a result, all children make the progress they are capable of.

- Staff provide lots of opportunities for children to develop their literacy skills. Staff enthusiastically read stories and ask children to predict what might happen next. Outdoors, younger children make marks using large brushes as they pretend to paint the floor. Older children purposefully write and draw using paper and pens. When needed, staff model how to hold the pen correctly and phonetically sound out words, such as children's names as they attempt to write them. These experiences help children to develop the skills needed for future writing and spelling.
- The curriculum is designed to enhance and extend children's imaginations and develop their creativity skills. For instance, younger children are encouraged to mix paints and predict what new colours they have made. Older children are challenged to create their own observational paintings of daffodils. As a result, children remain highly engaged and are able to experiment and bring their ideas to life.
- Staff weave mathematical concepts through children's play and during routines. For example, staff model mathematical language such as 'shorter' and 'longer' as they encourage children to compare the size of objects. As children fill containers, staff ask them to predict how many scoops it will take to fill them. This supports children to strengthen their knowledge of wider mathematical concepts.
- Staff share information with parents about the importance of good oral hygiene routines and children are encouraged to brush their teeth at nursery after eating. This supports children to adopt a healthy lifestyle and to develop positive attitudes for the future.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen supervision arrangements so staff receive more incisive feedback and closer monitoring to improve their practice even further
- continue to develop the curriculum for communication and language to provide more challenge and enhance children's speaking skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2647702
Local authority	Blackburn with Darwen
Inspection number	10319582
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 3
Total number of places	15
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Little Wonders Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2647700
Telephone number	07735919836
Date of previous inspection	4 October 2023

Information about this early years setting

Little Wonders Nursery Ltd registered in 2021. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 9am to 3.30pm, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector throughout the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff 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.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of the staff.
- The inspector spoke to the provider, who is also the manager, about the leadership and management of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and took account of their views.

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 2024