

Inspection of Little Acorns Nursery With Sunrise And Sunset Club

All Saints C Of E Primary School, Finch Lane, Wigan WN6 9DT

Inspection date: 9 May 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 Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff greet children warmly and are genuinely excited to hear their stories from home. Children arrive eager to see what is happening in nursery today. They know where to put their things and settle quickly to their learning. The environment provides a fascinating array of learning experiences indoors and outdoors. Staff play alongside children, keeping them safe and secure as they explore. Children are confident to use resources creatively. For example, they make a telescope from a cardboard tube to watch their friends arrive. Children show real care and concern for each other. They persevere when things get tricky and encourage their friends to do the same. Staff foster a culture of care and respect. Children behave beautifully in response to the high expectations of staff. They take care of each other and their environment. Children are learning to keep themselves safe, particularly on their regular visits to the forest area.

Staff provide learning experiences that build on children's prior learning and experiences. They provide carefully planned activities that follow children's interests. Children make good progress across all areas of the curriculum. They enjoy talking about their learning and the things that they enjoy doing. Leaders have implemented an ambitious curriculum that supports children's communication and language development effectively.

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

- Staff provide engaging learning opportunities that children thoroughly enjoy. For example, children are delighted to find hidden bugs in the soil as they dig. Staff share their excitement and support children to use a poster to identify the bugs they find. Staff and children talk about the names of the bugs and where real bugs might live. This develops children's vocabulary and knowledge of the natural world.
- Leaders have designed a carefully considered curriculum for communication and language. Staff are constantly interacting with children. They skilfully use these conversations to enrich each child's use of language. The curriculum intent accurately meets children's learning needs. Staff plan learning experiences that build on children's language skills and support them to become effective communicators.
- Children enjoy many opportunities to explore number, shape and pattern as they play. Staff support children to revisit their work on pattern as they explore magnetic blocks. In this way, children are practising their skills and building on their learning.
- Staff foster a positive attitude to learning and provide many opportunities for children to be independent. For example, children's wellies are pegged together with their name on. Children change in and out of these with little intervention

required from staff and ensure they are put back correctly. When putting on shoes becomes tricky, children persevere, taking real pride in their eventual success.

- Children are taught to have respect for others. They are encouraged to talk about what makes them unique and explore some different cultural festivals. Books and resources in the setting reflect the cultural diversity of Britain as a whole. However, children have little opportunity to explore diversity in their everyday play and interactions in order to help them experience and learn about people, families and communities different to their own.
- Children enjoy a range of physical challenges in the environment. They work together during block play to manipulate and carry large slabs of polystyrene. Children are able to negotiate demanding climbing and balancing equipment. They are becoming aware of their own bodies, while developing strength and stamina.
- Leaders and staff place a strong focus on the literacy curriculum. Children are given many opportunities to recognise and write their own name. They enjoy well-planned activities to develop their knowledge of phonics. Children initiate songs and stories with adults as they play. Staff are immediately responsive to this and they become engrossed in a book or song together. Children are developing a love of stories and an awareness of the meaning of print.
- Leaders are ambitious and passionate about the setting. They have a clear vision and aim to offer a high-quality learning experience for all children. The manager values the staff. She supports staff's professional development and well-being effectively. Staff support each other and work well together as a team.

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:

- enrich the curriculum to explore diversity further in order to help children learn and understand about people, families and communities different to their own.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500596
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10335689
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 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Out Of School At All Saints
Registered person unique reference number	RP900999
Telephone number	01257252647
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2018

Information about this early years setting

Little Acorns Nursery With Sunrise And Sunset Club re-registered in 2016. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate qualification at level 6, two hold qualifications at level 5 and two hold qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The nursery offers flexible care during the holidays. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dawn France

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 manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the setting and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.

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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