

Inspection of La Maternelle Family Childcare - Sandbach

1 Dalton Court, Sandbach CW11 1YD

Inspection date: 12 November 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 Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy in this nursery. They are busily engaged throughout the day as the staff help them learn through varied and interesting activities. Children develop physical skills as they safely climb outdoors, ride tricycles and learn yoga poses. Children have opportunities to be creative as they dress up on the stage, explore paint using pipettes and play in role play areas. Staff frequently sing and read to children, which supports their language development.

Leaders have developed a broad and varied curriculum based on the skills and knowledge children need to begin school. This has been developed through close links with schools, speech and language specialists and health visitors. The learning environment and resources are well planned to support children's learning. Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour, and children develop positive attitudes to their learning and play. As a result, all children make good progress.

Daily routines support children to feel secure and give a good balance to adult-led activities and learning through play. Staff use pictures, gestures and signs to help children understand what is coming next. Children have opportunities to learn through engaging experiences such as hatching stick insects and learning French. Staff consider how they can support children's interests and make learning fun for children.

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

- Since the last inspection, the provider has notified Ofsted of a significant event where there was a breach of the statutory requirements. The notification means that the provider met their legal responsibility as set out in the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' to notify Ofsted of significant events. The provider has reviewed this incident and how accidents are reported to parents. They have taken swift action to address the breach of requirements.
- The broad curriculum is thoroughly planned and sequenced. Leaders have a very clear vision of what they want children to learn and they consider how learning should be delivered. For example, resources are provided on a weekly basis to focus on a key skill such as developing a pencil grip. As a result, children build knowledge and skills as they move through the nursery.
- Staff support children to develop good speech and language skills. They deliver a curriculum of high-quality stories, rhymes and songs throughout the day. These are carefully chosen to support children at their stage of development. Babies babble along to 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' and hold their hands open. As children hear this language repeatedly, they learn to remember and use a wide vocabulary.
- Staff support children to follow their own interests. They support children to use

an abundance of high-quality resources to explore, be creative and extend their own learning. Staff support children through high-quality questions and comments on what they might do next. Children thoroughly enjoy the freedom to learn through play.

- Staff help children to grow in confidence. Staff provide close, nurturing care for babies, which helps them to feel secure. There are lots of opportunities for children to develop independence. Children serve their own food, wipe their own faces and make choices in their play. Consequently, children develop the skills they need to begin school.
- In the main, children's behaviour is good. The curriculum supports children to develop good attitudes to learning by encouraging them to try hard and develop skills such as how to listen effectively. This supports children to make good progress. However, staff sometimes do not support children to understand some expectations of behaviour. For example, staff give inconsistent messages about where children can run safely and sometimes do not support children to consider the feelings of others. As a result, children do not always meet the setting's high expectations for behaviour.
- Staff establish effective relationships with parents. They support parents to understand their child's learning through regular communication such as reviews and parents' evenings. Staff encourage learning to continue at home by providing a range of activities. They provide emotional support for children and their families as children settle into the nursery or begin school. Consequently, children grow in confidence and are supported in their learning at home.
- Leaders focus on improving staff's knowledge and understanding of how children learn. They have robust systems for training that ensure new staff understand how to support children at the age and stage they work with. Ongoing training supports staff to continually improve upon their practice. As a result, there is a shared approach to delivering the curriculum and care as leaders intend.

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:

- ensure behaviour expectations are communicated clearly and applied consistently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497785
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10360034
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	93
Number of children on roll	128
Name of registered person	La Maternelle Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901707
Telephone number	01270 750 988
Date of previous inspection	18 December 2018

Information about this early years setting

La Maternelle Family Childcare - Sandbach registered in 2016. It employs 40 members of staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, three hold early years teacher status, two hold childcare qualifications at level 6, one at level 4, 13 at level 3 and three at level 2. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday all year round, excluding one week at Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery offers government funded places for children aged from nine months to four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Natalie Myatt

Inspection activities

- A manager, the quality lead and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to children to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- 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 joint observations of group activities with the quality lead.
- Parents spoke to the inspector about their opinions of the setting.

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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