

Little Owls Day Nursery

Swimsmart House, Bradley Lane, Standish, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN6 0XQ



Inspection date	23 August 2017
Previous inspection date	31 January 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team have worked exceptionally hard to make required improvements since the last inspection. Insightful evaluation and detailed action plans have contributed greatly to the changes that have been made.
- Overall, the quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff have a sound knowledge of how young children learn. Staff use effective observation, planning and assessment methods. They find out what children know and plan challenging activities that support what they need to learn next. Children make good progress in all aspects of their learning in readiness for school.
- Staff establish good working relationships with parents and other professionals. They work together successfully to meet children's individual needs and provide additional support where needed. Staff are effective in their communication with parents and involve them in their child's learning.
- Staff promote children's independence extremely well and value all children equally. Children develop positive attitudes and respond well to the high expectations of staff. Children manage their feelings well and their behaviour is very good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not use the correct words when speaking to children and during activities, to support children's understanding of language.
- At times, staff do not consider the timing of activities as well as possible, to help ensure all children's involvement and engagement is fully maximised.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop staff's teaching skills to ensure that they consistently model the correct language for children
- give consideration to routines, to help ensure children have sufficient time to complete the activities they are engaged and motivated in.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and area manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small group of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear comprehension about child protection procedures and understand the process to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff undertake training in food safety and first aid and carry out thorough daily risk assessments to help ensure children's safety and well-being. Staff are deployed effectively and ratios are maintained. The management team monitors staff performance through regular observations and supervisions. Staff have the opportunity to undertake further training to increase their knowledge and skills. For example, they have recently attended planning and assessment training and this has had a positive impact on children's learning and development. Children's progress is reviewed robustly to ensure that they continue to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are happy and enthused in their learning. They demonstrate confidence in trying new activities and are motivated to learn. For example, older children are encouraged to develop their mathematical understanding as they estimate quantities and problem solve. Younger children build towers, counting how many bricks they have used. They are encouraged to notice different colours and shapes. Staff nurture children's developing literacy skills as they are encouraged to find their name and make marks for a purpose. Older children explore letters, sounds and rhyming words. In the main, staff support children's emerging communication and language skills well as they repeat words, extend sentences, ask questions and use descriptive language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff engage in warm and sensitive interactions and are positive role models for children. They take time to find out detailed information about children, helping them to settle with ease and to feel emotionally secure. Children relish the roles and responsibilities they are given. For example, they help set the table for lunch and competently serve themselves at mealtimes. They carry out stringent hygiene routines, such as brushing their teeth and washing their hands with increasing confidence. The outdoor area provides a range of opportunities for children to increase their physical skills. They use resources that encourage them to climb, balance and move in different ways. Children complete their own risk assessments and understand that they need to tidy away toys so they do not fall.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They learn to play cooperatively alongside each other, developing their social skills. They demonstrate a good understanding of sharing and taking turns. Older children are curious to understand how, what and why things happen. Babies and younger children handle objects and concentrate intently on their chosen task. Children apply their learning well and confidently show that they are acquiring the skills needed in readiness for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY445849
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1084306
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	82
Name of registered person	St Bede's Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530849
Date of previous inspection	31 January 2017
Telephone number	01257423606

Little Owls Day Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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