

Shepherd Lodge Day Nursery

166 St. Annes Road East, LYTHAM ST. ANNES, Lancashire FY8 3HP



Inspection date	2 November 2018
Previous inspection date	22 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- Dedicated leaders and managers share their inspirational vision for the nursery with the enthusiastic and exceptionally driven staff team. Together, with the support of parents, grandparents and children, they reflect deeply on the quality of the nursery. Staff are passionately committed to providing children and their families with early years experiences of the highest quality.
- Staff are exceptionally skilled in identifying and making the most of learning opportunities as they arise during the activities that children choose for themselves. They use their knowledge of individual children's current stage of learning and development superbly to extend children's learning as they play.
- Staff monitor children's progress precisely. They rigorously identify any gaps in children's progress and ensure that swift and decisive action is taken in securing the support that some children need to make the best progress possible.
- The management and staff have an impressive determination to support parents to gain a deeper understanding of their children's learning. They share their expertise with parents in a wide variety of ways to help them to guide their children's learning precisely at home, for example, through their innovative parent activity loan scheme.
- Children develop close and trusting relationships with the nurturing staff team. Staff welcome children and treat them with kindness and respect. They celebrate children's achievements and provide gentle reassurance as children try out their ideas. This strongly contributes to children's high levels of self-esteem and confidence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance children's well-being and levels of involvement even further and monitor the impact this has on their already excellent learning outcomes.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the nursery managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and carers during the inspection and also considered their views in the written statements provided.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

There is a remarkable culture of reflective practice throughout the setting. Managers monitor the work of staff exceptionally closely. They value their staff immensely and actively encourage them to develop their skills continually. This has led to a large number of staff becoming highly qualified, some with highly specialist skills. For example, sports coaches work extremely closely with staff and children to provide an inspirational range of outdoor physical opportunities. This has had a profound impact on learning outcomes for children, in particular the physical skills of girls. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a comprehensive knowledge of the action to take should they have a concern about a child's welfare. They sensitively teach older children how to keep themselves safe and empower them to speak out should they need to.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have expert knowledge of the areas of learning and provide a rich variety of well-planned activities that are meticulously matched to children's current stage of development and their interests. Staff are skilled at giving just the right amount of help to promote children's creativity. Children confidently demonstrate and apply the skills they have been taught previously to new situations. For example, as older children enthusiastically make 'magic potions' they predict what they think will happen as each ingredient is added to the pot and delight in talking about what they observe. Staff are always on hand to skilfully extend and challenge children's learning. They are deeply interested in what children do and ask thoughtful and challenging questions, to help them take their next steps in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are inspirational role models. Children behave impeccably, and they are incredibly polite. Staff recognise the importance of children's well-being. They already have exciting plans in place to promote further children's positive attitudes to learning. Children have outstanding opportunities to challenge their physical skills. Older children learn the skills of a variety of sports, and babies and toddlers explore different ways of moving as they take part in regular yoga sessions. Children develop an excellent understanding of healthy eating. For example, they delight in trips to the nursery allotment where they grow their own healthy vegetables. Exceptionally strong links with members of the local community are highly effective in supporting children to celebrate diversity.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are confident and self-assured learners who show high levels of engagement in their activities. They solve problems and work together challenging each other to take the next steps in their learning. Children of all ages delight in sharing stories. Younger children talk about the pictures in books while older children identify the sounds that letters represent in familiar words. All children confidently use numbers during their play and make efficient and confident use of mathematical vocabulary. Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309455
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10070874
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	104
Name of registered person	Learning Curve (Lancashire) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534316
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2015
Telephone number	01253 729 009

Shepherd Lodge Day Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7, including three staff who hold early years professional status and one who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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