

Inspection of Lytham Lodge Nursery

Ballam Road, LYTHAM ST. ANNES, Lancashire FY8 4LE

Inspection date: 6 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and content in the beautifully organised nursery. Comprehensive risk assessments and ongoing monitoring systems help staff to ensure that children's health and safety are paramount. Staff supervise children very well. Children are delighted to be here; they comment, 'I just love coming to nursery.' Children are sensitive to the needs of each other and consistently have a very high standard of behaviour. Staff instil a culture of self-control, tolerance and mutual respect. Their expectations for behaviour are exceptionally high. If, occasionally, children struggle with self-regulation, they recall breathing techniques they have been taught to help calm themselves down. Children demonstrate high levels of engagement. They are self-motivated and excited to learn. The calm, relaxing environment encourages children to be curious and explore independently.

Developing children's physical skills is a priority at the nursery. Children benefit from a sharply focused programme of physical exercise from a dedicated team of sports coordinators. They frequently explore the local community on bicycles and take part in sports sessions. Children are confident when using the scooters and bicycles and carefully navigate around the newly installed 'road' in the outdoor area. Children learn about the importance of riding on the correct side so that they do not collide with each other.

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

- The curriculum is well planned and captures what children are interested in. Ongoing observations and assessments help staff to understand and build on what children already know and can do. Partnership with parents is strong, and they are well supported to extend children's learning at home. For instance, children are currently learning about India. Parents have contributed to this by helping children make rangoli patterns at home.
- Communication and language development are supported very well. Staff use unique strategies to teach children how to speak correctly. For example, staff repeat what children say back to them, before modelling the correct language. This helps to promote children's confidence and develop their speaking skills. Older children's vocabulary is extended with interesting words such as 'blossoming' and 'camouflage'.
- Children have access to a wealth of resources and areas of provision that provoke their natural curiosity. Younger children are engrossed as they explore the texture of wet sand and learn the names of different fish. Older children delight as they take part in an interactive story time. Although the indoor environment supports children's learning very well, there are less opportunities for older children to develop their literacy skills in the outdoor area, due to the garden being redeveloped at the time of the inspection.

- Children benefit from a superbly implemented, flexible admissions procedure. Home visits by their key person and a phased introduction to nursery help children to form attachments and feel safe and secure. Staff are highly alert to children's emotional well-being; it is clear that this is at the heart of everything they do.
- Children's confidence levels soar in social situations. For instance, they approach visitors eagerly as they enter the room, introduce themselves and offer a handshake. Similarly, their ability to work together and solve problems is compelling. Children search the nursery looking for a tiger's lost stripes. They encourage their friends to look high, low and all around, while being careful not to get in each other's way.
- Teaching children the language of feelings is thoroughly embedded throughout the nursery. Babies explore pictures of themselves with happy faces. Staff talk about their happy faces and wait patiently for babies to babble back. Older children examine the different facial expressions of characters in books. They discuss what feelings these expressions may indicate.
- Purposeful, well-thought-out trips to the local community help children to develop an excellent understanding of the wider world. For instance, children socialise with elderly residents, visit local landmarks and explore the forest areas of their community.
- Successful strategies for coaching and mentoring help to provide staff with targeted support to raise the quality of teaching even higher. Leaders have a sound understanding of the importance of staff's well-being. They work tirelessly to ensure staff are supported and confident in their roles.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a sound understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse. They are clear of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about the welfare of a child or the behaviour of a staff member. The procedures in place for the recruitment and vetting of staff are robust. Staff complete regular safeguarding training to ensure their knowledge and understanding are up to date.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more opportunities for older children to build on their literacy skills, for example when using the outdoor area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY562544
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10147359
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	Learning Curve (Lancashire) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534316
Telephone number	01253 732757
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Lytham Lodge Nursery registered in 2018 and is located in Lytham St Annes. The nursery employs 15 staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 6, including a member of staff who holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, from 8am to 6pm. The nursery receives funding for the early education of two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kayte Farrell

Inspection activities

- The manager gave the inspector a tour of the nursery and discussed how the curriculum is organised and implemented.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors, and evaluated the impact on children's learning.
- A meeting was held with the senior leadership team. Documentation relating to the suitability of staff was checked, along with qualification certificates and paediatric first-aid certificates.
- A joint observation was completed with the curriculum leader.
- Discussions were held with parents, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

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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