

Puddleducks Day Nursery

Epping Drive, Woolston, Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 4QL



Inspection date

4 February 2016

Previous inspection date

28 November 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children are happy as they freely explore and investigate in a highly enabling environment. They are supported to develop excellent self-help skills and become inquisitive, confident learners.
- Teaching is good. Highly qualified staff know children well and have a secure knowledge of how children learn. Children benefit from a good range of activities which promotes their interest and development. Children make good progress in all aspects of their learning, in readiness for school.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff and parents consistently work together to promote children's learning and development between the nursery and home. Staff share information about children's progress through regular meetings and invite parents to contribute their ideas to support children's learning.
- The management team is committed to providing a high-quality provision for all. Their robust self-evaluation clearly identifies areas for improvement and takes into account the views of parents and children. This enables them to continuously develop and improve their service.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The planning for children's next steps in learning is not always sharply focused to provide higher levels of challenge for children and promote their rapid progress.
- At times, when children might benefit from thinking through ideas for themselves, staff are too quick to provide the answers.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more sharply on the already good assessment of children's progress so that activities provide greater levels of challenge to help children make exceptional progress
- provide children with appropriate time to answer questions and develop their thinking skills.

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 one of the nursery managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery managers and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers lead a strong, loyal and dedicated team of staff. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of how to identify and report any concerns regarding children's welfare. They have attended relevant training and have a shared understanding about their responsibility to protect children from harm. Staff benefit from consistent support, such as regular meetings and training to enhance their professional development. The managers monitor the progress of individual children and have begun to identify the progress of different groups of children to support them in identifying any emerging gaps in children's learning. For example, they targeted training to support the provision for boys' learning, with particular regard to literacy and mathematics. This has helped towards improvements in the progress these children make.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children well in their learning and plan a range of exciting activities for children to enjoy. Children are articulate, active learners. Staff in the baby room give young children a secure base from which they can explore. They provide babies with a range of sensory activities and promote their investigative skills. This helps them discover different textures as they explore a variety of materials and play in the sand. Staff working with older children place a strong focus on supporting them to learn about numbers and letter sounds. They encourage children to count, measure and identify letters and numbers during everyday activities. Children thoroughly enjoy making marks as they practise their early writing skills. They have wonderful opportunities to be creative and use their imaginative skills well. They enjoy making sounds with musical instruments, singing and dancing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models and talk to children with respect and kindness. They offer clear guidelines of expectations. This helps children to develop a positive sense of themselves and understand how to manage their own behaviour and make friends. The highly effective key-person system helps to ensure that children develop secure attachments with staff. Staff support children's emerging understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle that involves physical exercise and a healthy diet. Children play outside regularly, developing their physical skills. They enjoy regular sports sessions, learning how to control their bodies and use equipment, such as, tennis rackets, bats and balls. Through positive staff interaction, children learn to share and take turns, developing their good levels of self-esteem and confidence. Children become independent from an early age and they are motivated to do things for themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the skills and capacity to learn in preparation for their next stage of learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	315312
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	847684
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	64
Number of children on roll	108
Name of provider	Andrea May Scott and Christine Mary Berry Partnership
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2008
Telephone number	01925 838967

Puddleducks Day Nursery was registered in 1999. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 20 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens 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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