

Puddleducks Daycare Nursery and Link Club Limited

Epping Drive, Woolston, WARRINGTON WA1 4QL



Inspection date	18 December 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

- Managers strive to ensure high standards are continually maintained. They seek feedback from parents and use meetings with other managers to help them evaluate and enhance practice.
- Children form close bonds with all staff. Several staff members have worked in the setting for many years. Their experience and commitment make a positive difference to children's care and learning, as well as providing reassurance to parents.
- The quality of teaching is good throughout the setting and particularly strong in the pre-school room. Staff provide stimulating and challenging activities that help children to achieve well and make good progress over time.
- The environment is extremely well equipped with an excellent range of high-quality and easily accessible resources that help to promote all areas of children's development.
- Partnerships with parents are a key strength and staff ensure parents are kept fully informed. Parents report that staff 'go the extra mile' to support them and their children. They say, 'I can go to work knowing my child is in the best possible hands'.
- Managers do not precisely evaluate how additional funding, such as the early years pupil premium, is used to help to improve children's outcomes.
- Overall, performance management is effective, but processes do not focus sharply enough on ways to help staff to raise their teaching skills to outstanding levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate how additional funding is used to help to close gaps in children's learning so that they make the best possible progress
- build on systems for performance management to give staff more incisive support and guidance to help them raise the quality of teaching to outstanding levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children and completed a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Jan Linsdell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Experienced managers lead a strong and successful team. The level of staff qualifications exceed minimum requirements and staff benefit from supervision, ongoing training and team-building events. Safeguarding is effective. Good security measures are in place to help to keep children safe, including closed-circuit television in all rooms. Staff refresh their knowledge of safeguarding procedures by attending training. They know how to recognise potential signs of abuse, including situations where children or adults may be at risk of radicalisation. Managers have recently introduced a new digital system to promote more precise monitoring of children's progress. Parents will shortly have access to this system, which is planned to help to promote even greater parental involvement in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know how to successfully promote children's learning. They accurately assess children's skills and show a good understanding of their abilities and next steps in learning. Interactions between staff and children are very positive. For example, staff make great use of songs to teach children about routines and expectations regarding behaviour. This enables children to become focused and ready for learning. Staff plan craft activities and use skilful questioning to help older children to learn about mathematical concepts, such as shape, size and position. They remind children to look, listen and put their hand up, to answer questions. This helps them to develop skills in readiness for school. Staff make sure that children have an interesting range of sensory experiences to enjoy. All children, including babies, develop their skills for early writing, for instance, when they make marks with chunky crayons.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff frequently boost children's self-esteem by praising their efforts and sharing the achievements with other children. Older children show responsibility when they help with tasks, such as using the child-size trolley to hand out cutlery at lunchtime. The cook provides nutritious meals and staff consistently follow good hygiene routines, which help to safeguard children's health. Pre-school children have free access to the outdoor play area, so they can choose when they want to play outside. Children benefit from weekly sports sessions, which help to keep them fit and active. Team training on paediatric first-aid, means staff are more confident when responding to any emergency. Staff keep a close check on sleeping children to ensure their safety. They involve children in local fund-raising events which help to promote strong links with the community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their play and make good progress across all areas of their learning, including children in receipt of funding. Babies learn about rhythm and sounds when they sing songs with the musical instruments. Toddlers show interest in books and learn to operate interesting objects, such as locks and switches. This helps them to understand how things work. Pre-school children learn to make friends and they eagerly join in with musical activities that promote their understanding of letters and sounds.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538333
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10079115
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	94
Name of registered person	Puddleducks Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP538331
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01925 838967

Puddleducks Daycare Nursery and Link Club Limited has operated for many years, but re-registered in 2016 following a change in legal status. The setting employs 28 members of childcare staff. Of these, 25 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including the provider who holds qualified teacher status. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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