

Wind In The Willows Childcare (Longbarn)

Fallowfield Grove, Padgate, WARRINGTON, WA2 0QQ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 February 2015

17 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The staff provide a calm, happy, orderly and well-resourced environment which is enhancing children's well-being and helping them to make good progress in all of the areas of learning, thus preparing them well for the next stage of their learning and for school.
- A good start has been made in using a new system to check the progress and achievements of individuals and groups of children, especially those groups at risk of falling behind.
- Parents are delighted with the support they receive, including parents of children with English as an additional language and children with specific needs.
- Staff update their training in safeguarding regularly, which helps to protect children. Children learn to keep themselves safe by helping to identify risks in the play areas.
- The manager regularly checks on the quality of teaching and gives staff useful feedback to help them improve, and any variations in the quality of teaching are tackled quickly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- a small number of less experienced members of staff do not always introduce activities well with children, or question children skilfully; written plans are sometimes unclear about what staff want children to learn and some adults do not set a good example in the way they speak.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to improve the way that some adults interact with children so that they clearly explain the purpose of focussed activities, question children in ways that extend their thinking and learning and model accurate speech to encourage children's communication and use of language
- ensure that written plans are clear about what staff intend the children to learn from the activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the nursery rooms and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff, children and parents and held meetings with the manager and registered person of the provision.
- The inspector carried out four short joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector specifically tracked the impact of the setting on the learning, development and progress of three children of different ages and backgrounds.

Inspector

Linda McLarty

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The quality of teaching is good overall. Outdoor learning is used well to help children learn about wildlife as they fill bird feeders and examine insects in the large 'bug hotel'. Children enjoy planned, imaginative activities called 'island times' with their key persons, both indoors and outside. They learn about shape, space and measure as they make sandcastles, or fill large jugs with smaller jugs of water. They learn to count as they play in the outdoor bakery. Younger children learn to count up and down from five using the 'Five currant buns' rhyme. Staff often make their own good-quality resources in response to children's interests, for example, buns for the bakery and nursery rhyme, and a 'dinosaur bingo' set which encourages children to talk excitedly as they match the shapes. Parents report that their children's home culture and language is valued well in the nursery. Children's faces light up with delight as they hear songs sung in their home languages. Children receive good support when changing groups within the nursery.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The staff's caring, patient attitude to children results in close, trusting relationships where children feel confident to ask for help or to learn from their mistakes. Staff teach the children good manners and kind behaviour. Children are becoming increasingly independent as they dress themselves for their daily outdoor learning, tidy away activities and lay tables for lunch. Older children chop up fruit for snacks, or help themselves to healthy hot food at lunchtime. They chat happily with the staff, who eat with them in order to use lunch time to encourage children's conversation, social habits and table manners. The flexible snack-time routine supports rather than interrupts the children's involvement in learning. Children are encouraged to name and be proud of their achievements, which is developing their confidence well.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager regularly watches staff practice to ensure that staff share her good understanding of how to meet the learning, development, safeguarding and welfare requirements. Detailed feedback, and the recently introduced supervision sessions help staff to improve, including the very few staff whose quality of teaching is weaker. The manager has evaluated the nursery's strengths and areas for improvement accurately and has set clear targets to improve any weaknesses. She has successfully tackled the actions and recommendations from the last inspection and is highly ambitious to improve her setting. She checks that children in the different groups are achieving well. Assessment information, including the progress check for two-year-olds, is used well and shared regularly to help parents and staff work together to support children's learning and development. Children are safeguarded well. Staff can describe how to report any concern they have about children or adults, and their work is underpinned by clear safeguarding and whistleblowing policies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447148
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	1006017
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	Wind In The Willows Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2014
Telephone number	01925818818

Wind in the Willows Childcare (Longbarn) was registered in 2012 on the Early Years Register, having previously been registered in 2008. It is one of eight childcare provisions run by Wind In The Willows Childcare Limited. It is situated in a single-storey building adjacent to New Horizons school in Longbarn, Warrington. Five of the nine staff are qualified to level three or above, and the manager and one member of staff are qualified to level six. The provider has a masters degree in Early Years and holds Early Years Professional Status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round from 7:30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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