

Inspection of Little Lot Nursery Limited

Stockton Heath Primary School, West Avenue, Stockton Heath, WARRINGTON WA4 6HX

Inspection date: 1 July 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children have a great start to their learning at the nursery. They form close relationships with the staff and their peers. Staff create a positive and welcoming environment where children feel settled and secure. The nursery provides a diverse curriculum that is adapted to meet the needs of all children. Staff teach children about animals and life cycles as they observe the process of hatching chicks from eggs and butterflies from chrysalises. They create a sense of awe and wonder for children. Children further develop their understanding of nature as they grow fruit and vegetables. They eagerly look at photos and discuss the newly hatched baby robins found in their flowerpot.

Staff encourage children to be creative and express themselves in a variety of ways. For example, children are eager to explore mark making, skilfully drawing robins. A dedicated music teacher offers children the opportunity to explore music and rhythm. Staff encourage children to collaborate. For example, they work carefully together to build obstacle courses. Children challenge themselves as they climb. Staff support them to take manageable risks in their play with growing confidence. Staff use positive praise with children to encourage good behaviour. Children understand and follow the rules. Children are very confident. They show genuine kindness to one another, following the lead of staff. For example, children say to each other 'that's a lovely picture' as they enjoy mark making together.

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

- Staff deliver a curriculum that is sequenced so that it builds upon what children already know. For example, staff first focus on developing children's strength in their hands through playing with dough and sand. This helps children to develop the strength they need to develop control of pens and pencils.
- Staff accurately assess children's development and use this to tailor learning to meet their individual needs. At times, they teach children in small groups. This helps them to precisely plan learning to help children to make good progress.
- Stories and songs are a key part of the nursery curriculum. Children separate into age groups for stories, which helps staff to share appropriate stories. Children listen carefully to stories.
- The nursery provides books for children to take home, encouraging reading with their family. Children enjoy reading independently and develop a love of stories.
- Staff sensitively manage children's care routines. For example, they encourage younger children to climb the small steps onto the changing table. Staff talk to children gently about what they are doing. This helps children to feel settled and secure.
- Children develop some good independence skills. For example, staff teach them how to go to the toilet and wash their hands by themselves. However, this

teaching is not consistent over lunchtime. Staff cut up food and do not consistently teach children to use their knives and forks correctly. This means that children have not fully developed this skill, particularly in preparation for starting school.

- There is good support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff quickly identify children's needs and discuss these with parents. They work closely with other agencies, such as the local authority outreach team, to support children. Children with SEND make good progress in their development.
- The nursery has close links with the school in which it is situated. Children's transition to reception is seamless. Staff have adapted their curriculum to closely align with the school. Children visit the reception classrooms and playground and eat their lunch in the school hall each day. This helps them to get used to their new environment before they move to school.
- The nursery has positive relationships with parents. They are welcomed to parents' evenings to discuss children's progress. This helps parents to understand what children are learning and how they can support their learning at home.
- Staff complete all mandatory training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid. However, there is less focus on training to support staff's practice. This means that training does not precisely focus on developing staff's knowledge and skills over time.
- Additional funding is used well to support disadvantaged children. For example, the nursery sources resources to support children's sensory needs, and it funds meals for children. This helps to ensure all children can access the nursery provision.
- Leaders are reflective and continually evaluate the provision. They have a positive approach to making adaptations to meet the changing needs of children. For example, they review the environment each year and make any changes needed to fully promote children's learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consistently promote children's independence skills, particularly at mealtimes
- develop a plan for training and professional development that focusses on developing staff's practice over time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	315319
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10398061
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	The Little Lot Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908927
Telephone number	01925 215642
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Lot Nursery Limited registered in 1992. The nursery employs five members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amanda Richards

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views with the inspector.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- The manager provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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