

Inspection of Tree Tots Nursery Kirkham

Field View, Freckleton Road, Kirkham, Preston PR4 3RB

Inspection date: 4 October 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Since the last inspection, the team has worked hard to improve the quality of care and education for children. It provides a safe and stimulating environment that promotes children's learning and emotional well-being. Staff get to know children well and have a good understanding of their individual needs. They have clear boundaries in place to support positive behaviour. When disputes over toys occur, staff gently explain to children the importance of sharing and turn-taking. Children later recall these conversations and make positive behaviour choices. They are quickly learning about right and wrong and what is expected of them.

Staff adapt the broad and ambitious curriculum well to support children who speak English as an additional language. They use objects of reference to help build on children's understanding. The curriculum for communication and language development is well embedded. Staff use a broad range of vocabulary to extend children's language and help them gain new knowledge. Older children learn the word 'antennae', along with its meaning and purpose. They recall their learning about autumn and use words such as 'deciduous' to describe trees with no leaves. Toddlers confidently hold back-and-forth conversations about their experiences at the nursery and the things they enjoy. Children demonstrate secure speaking skills and are well prepared for the next stage of learning.

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

- The nursery provides children with an exciting and well-sequenced curriculum. Staff recognise what children already know and can do, and what they need to learn next. They identify accurate next steps in learning that support children to build on their existing skills and knowledge. This helps children to make good progress in their development.
- The procedures for identifying and supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are effective. Staff monitor children's development closely to identify any gaps in learning. For children who need additional support, target learning plans are implemented and monitored closely. Referrals to outside agencies are made swiftly to ensure that children receive the support they need. Children with SEND make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Promoting children's independence is a strength across the nursery. Babies learn to use the outdoor equipment with little support. Toddlers skilfully put dressing-up clothes and shoes on without any help. Pre-school children confidently use knives and forks accurately at mealtimes. Children are developing important skills needed for school.
- Children demonstrate a lovely attitude to learning. They are eager to help their friends when learning new skills, such as putting their coats on. Children work

together to fasten one another's zips and offer praise and encouragement to their friends. They show a genuine happiness when they see their friends succeed. This boosts children's confidence and self-esteem.

- Overall, information-sharing is effective. Parents receive daily feedback about their child's day and information about their child's development. This helps them to extend learning at home. However, the arrangements for sharing information between staff when children change rooms are not consistent. Occasionally, staff are unsure of children's previous next steps when they join a new room. This hinders the continuity in some children's learning.
- Babies enjoy taking part in 'circle time'. They make choices about which songs they want to sing by selecting the corresponding picture card. They instinctively start to dance in anticipation of staff singing. Babies join in with words they are familiar with and show a good understanding of the actions that correspond with these words. Babies show an eager and motivated attitude to taking part.
- The curriculum for literacy development is well implemented. Younger children show impressive pencil control for their age and make purposeful marks. Older children enjoy listening to different sounds and matching them to the corresponding pictures. Staff support children to strengthen their small muscles with dough and finger activities. This helps to prepare children for early writing.
- The long-standing staff team works well together. It receives some feedback on its practice and has supervision meetings each term. However, not all staff access targeted professional development opportunities or training to help strengthen their practice further. Consequently, there are some inconsistencies in the quality of education across the staff team.

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:

- strengthen the arrangements for information-sharing between staff when children move rooms to provide more continuity in their learning
- build on the arrangements for coaching and mentoring to help staff extend their skills and knowledge and provide more consistency in the quality of education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360154
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10353679
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	90
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Tree Tots Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906217
Telephone number	01772 673600
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2024

Information about this early years setting

Tree Tots Nursery Kirkham registered in 2007 and is situated in Kirkham. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded care and early education for children aged nine months up to four years and children in receipt of funding for disadvantage.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Kayte Farrell

Inspection activities

- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at nursery.
- The inspector talked to the staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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