

Inspection of Looby Lou's Complete Childcare

Finkills Way, NORTHALLERTON, North Yorkshire DL7 8UQ

Inspection date: 11 March 2024

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children and parents are welcomed at this friendly nursery. Children settle quickly, happily going to familiar staff for cuddles and comfort. This supports their emotional well-being. Staff encourage positive attitudes to learning and praise children frequently. They have high expectations for children. Where children need additional support to manage their feelings and behaviour, staff are swift to intervene. They patiently explain to children how their behaviour affects their friends. This helps children develop positive relationships.

Children make choices and decisions as they play, helping them to become independent learners. Staff read to children often throughout the day, helping them learn to love books. Children enjoy gathering around staff to listen contentedly to stories. Children benefit from the time and space they need to explore, experiment and create unique pieces of art. This supports children's imagination and creativity.

Babies access a carefully planned environment, where they can safely crawl, cruise furniture and move their whole bodies. Children access the outdoors, where they ride trikes and scooters and practise their balancing skills. This supports their core muscle development. Furthermore, children develop fine motor skills. Babies grasp toys, toddlers persist at stacking blocks, and older children begin to use scissors and competently make marks with chalks and pencils. This helps to promote early writing skills.

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

- The dedicated managers support staff to implement a curriculum that meets the needs of children. Staff target their teaching effectively. They know what skills they want children to learn and what they want to teach next. The manager has a clear aim to continually enhance the quality of the provision. She recognises the many areas of strength, while also being able to identify where improvement is needed.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported. Accurate assessments help staff to identify any emerging gaps at the earliest stage. They work closely with parents to help them access help and advice. All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff promote children's communication well. Staff who work with babies use animated and encouraging facial expressions. They speak to them as they play and while addressing their care needs, emphasising key words which babies quickly come to recognise and understand. Older children express themselves clearly and ask questions to reinforce their learning. However, there is room to strengthen teaching even further. For example, by expanding on what older

children say and by adding additional descriptive words to help broaden children's vocabulary.

- Staff promote children's independence well. Younger children are encouraged to wash their own plate after snack time. Older children climb the stairs themselves, holding onto the handrail to keep themselves safe. Staff help children to learn about healthy lifestyles. Children brush their teeth daily and understand why and when it is important to wash their hands.
- Staff embed and weave some mathematics well throughout children's activities. For example, number songs support children's counting skills. However, staff do not consistently encourage older children to use and develop their knowledge and understanding of early mathematical concepts. For example, by making comparisons in size, weight and volume.
- Staff say that they feel supported by the management team. Additional initiatives, such as well-being practitioner, further support staff and help them to feel valued. Staff receive regular supervision meetings, where they reflect on their practice and identify professional development opportunities. For example, some staff have accessed Makaton training and completed additional training to support children aged two. This helps to improve their personal effectiveness and improve outcomes for children.
- Staff form positive relationships with parents. Parents report that their children have made progress in their communication and language skills, toileting and independence skills. They talk highly of the welcoming and nurturing nature of the staff. They say that they get helpful information to support their children at home. Parents say that their children have fun at nursery and enjoy attending.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the already good practice in developing older children's expressive language skills by expanding on what they say and using additional words when responding
- support staff to identify opportunities to introduce children to different mathematical concepts, such as size, weight and volume.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394774
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	10317080
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 8
Total number of places	137
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Nursery Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905563
Telephone number	01609 772872
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2018

Information about this early years setting

Looby Lou's Complete Childcare registered in 2009. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from 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.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the manager and deputy and discussed how the curriculum is delivered.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024