

Inspection of Partou Upton Day Nursery & Pre-School

340 Upton Road, Upton, Wirral CH43 9RW

Inspection date:

14 May 2025

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

There are some inconsistencies in the quality of teaching that children receive. This, in part, is due to many staff being new to the nursery. The provider has ensured that leaders have a strong understanding of the knowledge and skills they want children to learn. Some staff support children to learn well, but the provider has not helped other staff to understand the nursery's curriculum. As a result, some staff focus too much on providing activities, rather than teaching children the knowledge that they need to know. Some children do not make consistently good progress in their learning of the curriculum.

Babies benefit from the support of the kind and caring staff. However, the provider has not ensured that enough staff are qualified or experienced to work with babies. This has an impact on the quality of babies' learning. At lunchtimes, the provider does not ensure that staff support babies to settle well to eat. However, most of the practice, interactions and teaching for older children is of high quality. Children enjoy spending time at the nursery. They are greeted warmly on arrival by the caring staff team. Mostly, children behave well. The arrangements for identifying the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are effective.

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

- There are some inconsistencies in the quality of education that the nursery provides. The provider has not checked closely enough how staff understand the content of the intended curriculum. Consequently, on occasion, some staff lack clarity about what knowledge to teach the children. Some children do not make the progress of which they are capable.
- Some activities that staff provide are not matched well to children's needs, development and interests. As a result, some children crowd around the staff's more well-thought-out activities. The bustle of children gets in the way of some of their effective learning of the curriculum.
- Staff working with babies are gentle and supportive. Babies are safe and well cared for. However, the provider has not ensured that enough staff are qualified for their work. This is a breach of the statutory requirements. In addition, the provider has not thought well enough about their curriculum for babies. Consequently, the nursery's learning opportunities do not develop these children's learning as well as it could.
- Staff provide children with many opportunities to learn stories and sing songs. They hold conversations with children skilfully about important topics. Children learn important new words to explain their ideas and understanding. They love to talk about the wide range of stories and songs that they know.
- Mostly, staff have high expectations and understanding of children's behaviour.

They use their training from the provider to help children learn how to behave sensibly. For example, staff use well-considered strategies, including gentle explanations, to help two-year-olds to understand why some behaviours are unwanted. Children learn how their behaviour can impact others.

- The provider ensures that the nursery has appropriate arrangements in place to support children with SEND. Staff work in partnership with parents to share important information about the next steps for children. They work closely with early years experts to ensure that children's needs are met.
- Children benefit from being active in the nursery. They love eating the healthy, freshly prepared meals that the nursery provides. Staff model to children how to have a healthy attitude to eating. For example, they eat the same meal as the children and hold valuable conversations about drinking lots of water and eating healthy foods. Children develop healthy eating habits.
- Following a recent incident where children left the nursery premises unnoticed by staff, the provider has made rapid improvements to keep children safe. The provider revised their risk assessment, detailing the steps to be taken by staff to ensure that children remain safe in the nursery. Staff deployment has been revisited and reviewed with all staff to ensure that all children will usually be in sight and/or hearing of staff. Additional bolts have been installed on the gates in the children's play area. These safety measures are effective in practice and help to keep children safe.

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 meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that at least half of staff working with babies hold the approved level 2 qualification	27/06/2025

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

- strengthen understanding of the overall curriculum content to support staff to implement this consistently well
- improve knowledge of how babies learn to help provide a challenging curriculum

that supports them to make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479011
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10402857
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Wirral Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902165
Telephone number	0151 678 6666
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2022

Information about this early years setting

Partou Upton Day Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2014 and is located in the Upton area of Wirral. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of whom, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery offers government funded places.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Andrea Vaughan

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- 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 inspector spoke with children about their time at the nursery.
- Staff spoke with the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during a group activity.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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