

Owlets

Langford Methodist Church, High Street, Langford, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 9RU



Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	10 December 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 quality of teaching is good as staff effectively promote children's learning and development through a variety of interesting and engaging activities. As a result, children make good progress as they are motivated in their play.
- Children develop secure emotional attachments with adults and progress well. This is because of good settling-in arrangements and ongoing discussion with parents.
- Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of safeguarding practices and fully understand their role in keeping children safe.
- Partnerships with parents are strong and well established. There is an effective two-way communication system, which supports children's development and well-being well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management's monitoring procedures are not yet fully secure to identify any inconsistencies in staff practice to maintain good quality teaching across the pre-school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed and regularly evaluate the ways in which staff performance is managed, including the arrangements for monitoring of the assessment for children's learning, to make sure all staff continue to improve and develop good practice and consistently deliver the highest quality teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the acting manager and the Chairperson of the management committee.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the acting manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- 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 to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Anne Bell

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is good because staff understand how to promote children's learning during play and as a result, children's progress is good given their starting points. Staff plan a wide range of activities across all areas of learning. Children listen to stories and then develop their own storylines with toys and props. They make their own dough, exploring the texture as they add flour to obtain the correct consistency. Outdoors, they play football and roll large hoops. Children chat animatedly to each other as they experiment with pouring water through funnels and sieves and observe what happens. Staff use skilful questioning and interventions to extend children's learning. Children have access to a good range of toys and resources and are encouraged to make their own choices about what and where to play within the room and in the outdoor area. This means that children develop confidence and their interest is sustained. Staff carry out regular observations of the children, which are used to inform planning. Children's records are accurate and informative. Staff provide daily opportunities for children to participate in group activities for short periods of time. This helps children to learn to sit and listen carefully to staff and is good preparation for future learning at school.

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

The key-person system works well. Staff know their key children very well and skilfully adapt routines and activities to meet the needs of individual children. Relationships between staff and children are warm and harmonious, which enables children to feel secure and develop confidence. Staff manage children's behaviour calmly and with consistency. Occasional incidences of unwanted behaviour are followed up by staff and efforts are made to re-direct children to more purposeful activity. Children's independence is promoted as they put on their own coats and hats to play outdoors. Children have access to fresh air and exercise daily, as they play in the outdoor area. They learn about good hygiene practices, as they wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet.

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

There are good partnerships in place with parents and other professionals. These partnerships support children as information about their individual needs is regularly shared. Consequently, children's needs are well met. The management team undertake self-evaluative practice and involve the views of parents and staff to develop the provision. This shows a commitment to improving. The management team implements a programme for staff supervision and professional development. However, procedures are not yet fully secure to identify any inconsistencies in staff practice, in order to maintain good quality teaching across the pre-school. The pre-school is well supported by its management committee. In particular, the committee implements robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff who are employed to work with children are suitable to do so.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY244757
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	860221
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	The Langford Owlets Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2009
Telephone number	0779 0763078

Owlets was registered in 2001. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 12noon each day, and from 9am to 3pm on Monday and Wednesday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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