

Little Chums Pre-School

Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, LINGFIELD, Surrey, RH7 6AB



Inspection date

21 January 2015

Previous inspection date

16 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The nursery does not have a robust recruitment procedure. Managers ensure that staff have criminal records checks but do not routinely seek further information to check that they are suitable to work with children. This does not promote children's welfare.
- The management team does not record information about the recruitment and vetting processes carried out to demonstrate staff suitability.
- Parents are not fully involved in their children's learning because they do not have frequent opportunities to see records of their progress.

It has the following strengths

- Teaching is consistently good and, as a result, children are making good progress in their learning. Staff plan activities based on their observations of children's interests and needs.
- The management team is always striving to improve. Regular team meetings ensure that all staff are working toward the same goals.
- The children are happy and outgoing. They have good relationships with the staff and feel safe and secure. Staff support them to make friendships and to work with other children.
- All staff have a secure understanding of what to do if they think a child may be at risk of harm and new staff have a thorough induction before working with children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

improve recruitment systems to ensure that all aspects of staff's suitability to work with children are considered

ensure that information about staff recruitment is recorded and made available for inspection.

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:
make progress records more easily accessible to allow parents to be more fully involved in their children's learning.

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- make progress records more easily accessible to allow parents to be more fully involved in their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and staff working together, both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector examined a sample of documents and procedures.
- The inspector met with the manager to talk about the nursery and spoke to staff members and children at appropriate times during the session.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Catherine Reeves

Inspection findings

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

The children are enthusiastic in their learning. They have opportunities to learn both indoors and outdoors which means children's different learning styles and interests are catered for. Staff plan activities based on careful observations of children's interests and requirements, meaning their individual needs are met well. Staff record children's progress but these records are not easily accessible to parents to involve them fully in their children's learning. Teaching is consistently good across the nursery. As a result, the children are making good progress. Staff know the children well and are good at drawing them into different games and activities. This means that children are provided with a wide range of interesting experiences to help them to learn. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and have a chance to develop skills which will help them as they move to school. For example, staff provide children with lots of opportunities to develop language, literacy and mathematical skills through engaging story sessions.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

The children have good relationships with the staff and the key-person system helps them to settle in quickly. Children feel secure at the nursery and so are confident and self-motivated. When children first start, staff gather information about their interests and skills so that they can plan appropriate activities. Staff cater for children's individual needs and regularly reassure new children about the routine. Children know about keeping healthy and help to prepare the nutritious snacks during the session. Staff support children as they develop social skills and so children play well together, taking turns and sharing fairly. Staff have all had a criminal records check but do not routinely have further checks on their employment history or suitability. This means that the recruitment process does not ensure staff suitability and promote children's well-being.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager leads the team well and supports them in developing their skills. She supports staff and encourages them to gain new qualifications and to undertake training. This means that the staff have the skills to help the children to make good progress. The manager supports the staff in their work with children and carefully monitors the progress that the children make. This ensures that all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress. The manager provides a thorough induction and regular training for her staff. However, the recruitment and vetting process is weak and information about this process is not recorded. This means that the manager cannot be sure that the staff she employs are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434924
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	824029
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Julie Margaret Duggan
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2012
Telephone number	01342835909

Little Chums Pre-School registered in 2011 and operates from rooms within Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre in Surrey. The pre-school receives early years funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds. The pre-school runs on a Monday and Friday from 9am to 3pm and a Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to 12 noon, during term time. Eight members of staff are employed to work with the children, of whom five have relevant qualifications at levels 2 and 3.

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