

Little Bees Pre-School

All Saints Church, Bark Hart Road, Orpington, Kent, BR6 0QD



Inspection date

22 January 2015

Previous inspection date

3 December 2008

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 staff team know the children well. They have an effective key-person system in place ensuring that children soon settle and enjoy their time at the pre-school.
- Staff carry out daily risk assessments to help to ensure that equipment and premises are safe for children to use.
- The children are able to choose from a wide variety of games and activities which encourage their learning.
- Staff support children with additional needs very well and they plan for their individual needs.
- The majority of children behave well and there is help for parents and children who need extra support.
- Staff take account of the views of parents and children when deciding what could be improved at the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff receive some basic information from parents when children start at the pre-school. However, this does not always include further information about what the children have already achieved.
- Some activities lack a good level of challenge and do not always encourage children to do things independently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain further information about children's prior achievements before they start pre-school in order to enhance their learning
- plan more challenging activities that give children the opportunity to use their thinking skills and become more independent.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interactions in the main hall and looked at the garden area.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to the manager, staff and some parents.
- The inspector looked through a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector looked at evidence in learning journals and spoke to some children.

Inspector

Karen Callaghan

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a broad range of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. Staff understand how children learn but occasionally activities do not fully challenge children's skills further. For instance, children enjoy making models but are not given opportunities to choose materials and cut out the pieces independently. Staff set out wide range of toys and resources that children can choose and these change daily. A good range of activities help them develop their reading and writing skills ready for starting school. For example, they enjoy role playing with telephones, key boards and writing notes. Some useful information from parents is collected but this does not always include what the children can already do on entry. Staff make regular observations of children's play and this enables them to plan effectively for next steps in learning.

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

The pre-school is safe and welcoming. Children have positive relationships with the staff and they enjoy playing with their friends, receiving, praise and consistent rules. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play. For instance, outside they play on scooters and balance boards and have fun inside jumping around pretending to be kangaroos or dinosaurs. They go on local outings to the shops learning to use money as they buy cooking ingredients to make cakes. They enjoy snack time where they learn about eating healthily as they choose fruit and self-care as they wash their hands and pour their own drinks. The children learn to understand the diverse community in their locality by playing with dolls from different ethnic groups and sharing dual language books.

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

The managers and her staff have a secure knowledge of the requirements. They review risks in the environment daily and staff have training in safeguarding and welfare. This further supports children's safety. Supervision is carried out by the manager in order to ensure good standards of provision and staff have further training where necessary. Safe recruitment practices ensure all staff are suitable to work with young children. The manager seeks the views of children and parents in order to improve the provision. As a result they have recently set up a cosy book corner where children can sit with friends and staff support them by reading stories. Partnerships with parents are positive. They send home regular newsletters as well as holding coffee mornings and open sessions to discuss their child's progress keep them well informed. Parents praise the setting for their good care and for helping their children to make good progress. The pre-school has good links with local schools, agencies and other early years settings in order to effectively share the learning needs of children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY273807
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	833412
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Laura O'Brien
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2008
Telephone number	07710 862 272

Little Bees pre-school re-registered to a new provider in 2004. The pre-school group is situated in the Orpington area of the London Borough of Bromley. The group operate from local church premises using a large hall and one playroom with associated toilets and kitchen. There is a secure outdoor play area. There are currently 30 children on roll in the early years age group. The pre-school supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and those having English as an additional language. A team of seven staff, including the provider, care for the children as well as the support of voluntary help. Of these staff, five hold a relevant childcare qualification. The pre-school is open between 9.15am and 12.15pm from Monday to Friday during term-time only.

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