

Little Rascals Pre-School

Whybridge Infant School, Ford Lane, RAINHAM, Essex, RM13 7AR



Inspection date	26 January 2015
Previous inspection date	28 January 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 across the pre-school is good. Staff provide a good range of activities and resources for children, indoors and outdoors.
- The joint providers are dedicated in driving improvement to promote good outcomes for children.
- Staff have built up caring and supportive relationships with the children in their care.
- Staff deployment is excellent and staff strive to extend every child's learning.
- There are very good partnerships with parents and staff ensure parents are well-informed and involved in their child's learning.
- Staff have good links with other professionals, helping to ensure children's individual needs are met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the organisation of whole group sessions does not fully reflect the concentration or energy levels of all children, and some become unsettled.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of some group activities to make sure that the group size and duration allow children to remain fully engaged.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the two main playrooms and garden
- The inspector had detailed discussions with both providers, the deputy manager and other members of staff.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's records, some policies and procedures and the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection, taking account of their views.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with one of the providers during the circle-time session at the end of the day.

Inspector

Catherine Marsh

Inspection findings

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

Children make good progress because staff support their learning well. There is a good range of resources that motivates children to play. Staff recognise the importance of play-based learning and take into account children's interests when planning. Educational programmes have depth and breadth across all areas of learning and children have many opportunities to lead their own play. Children enjoy interacting with staff and respond readily to questions during group activities. This promotes their communication and language. However, during the inspection, children were tired from a busy day playing and found it difficult to stay focussed during the final whole-group activity. Children's progress is closely monitored through the detailed assessments and regular observations. Information about children's starting points is gathered during initial sessions and through ongoing discussion with parents. In addition, staff complete communication books for each child that includes information about their activities and achievements.

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

Children form warm and trusting relationships with staff and respond to their good role-modelling. Staff help younger children to understand how to share and take turns. As a result, children are confident, secure and behave well. This prepares them well for the next stage in their learning. The key person system is effective and promotes good information sharing with parents. This helps key persons to be aware of children's changing interests and needs. Children demonstrate increasing independence in dressing themselves, using the bathroom and washing and drying their hands before eating. This helps them gain skills for moving to school and to learn about good personal hygiene. All staff have a good understanding of how to safeguard children effectively. This knowledge ensures children are well supported in their health, safety and well-being.

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

Recruitment procedures are robust and the providers promote the professional development of staff through regular supervision and monitoring. This helps to ensure the continued suitability of all staff. Any gaps in staff knowledge are addressed in a timely fashion, through targeted training and support. Parents spoken to were very happy with the progress that their children are making and appreciate the updates from the staff team. They commented on how the good relationships with the local schools helped to ease their children's move. There are good partnerships with other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, to support children when necessary. The providers monitor educational programmes well to ensure they promote children's learning in all areas. Self-evaluation is effective, allowing the staff team to plan further improvements. For example, they are currently exploring ways to improve the garden area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY339482
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	834929
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	68
Name of provider	Little Rascals Partnership
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2009
Telephone number	01708 550217

Little Rascals Pre-School registered in 2006. It is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four. There are a total of 13 staff, including the provision owners, 11 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. A minimum of five staff work with the children at any one time.

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