

Longslow Ladybirds Playgroup

Market Drayton Infant & Nursery School, Longslow Road, Market Drayton,
Shropshire, TF9 3BA



Inspection date	26 January 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children play and learn in a stimulating environment. As a result, they are motivated and busy learners as they explore new experiences.
- Children's behaviour is managed well to promote their self-esteem; children know the boundaries and feel secure in seeking out a member of staff for support when minor disputes occur.
- The manager shows a clear commitment to improving practice through seeking the views and comments of parents from regular questionnaires.
- Staff demonstrate a secure knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements and how children learn. Consequently, all children make good progress, given their varying starting points.
- Staff carry out regular observations on the children to help identify where they are in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide sufficient time for children to play and complete a task. This is because staff sometimes intervene too soon to move them onto another activity.
- Staff do not always ensure that all activities are sharply focused to meet the individual needs of all the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good standard of teaching, by encouraging staff to be more perceptive in recognising when to intervene in children's play, so that children have more control over their play and decision making
- enhance planning to maximise the opportunities to meet the needs of all children, by focusing on their individual next steps and how this is achieved through the activities based on the current theme.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the manager and spoke with the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's activities inside, and outside and carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children.
- The inspector looked at records of children's learning and development and a range of documentation, including policies, accident and attendance records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with on the day.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good, therefore children make good progress in their learning and development. Children are fully supported by staff to help promote their physical skills as they have free access to the outdoor environment on a daily basis. This effectively supports their enjoyment of being active, as they move safely with confidence developing their understanding of the natural world. Children's language and communication skills are developing well as they chat away to their key person and staff throughout the day. Staff support children very well in their progress, asking them questions to encourage their thinking. For example, children are given time to review and talk about what, and who they have played with during the session. Observations undertaken by all staff are used to inform the weekly planning for the group. However, activities are not always precisely linked to the individual next stage of all children's learning as sometimes it is based around the theme for the month rather than focusing on the individual needs of the child.

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

Children form strong attachments and bonds with staff, in particular their key persons who they remain with as they move from pre-school into nursery. As a result, staff know and understand their children well, as they effectively meet their emotional and social well-being. Staff gather important information from parents about their child through home visits before they start. This helps to fully support children's needs and ensures that they settle quickly and smoothly into playgroup. Children's health and dietary needs are known and understood by all staff to ensure that these are met well. Children are offered the option to stay for lunch and participate in school mealtime routines, with the older children. Staff organise resources and equipment effectively, as a result, children are able to access these independently to fully support their learning. However, on occasions, staff do not give children sufficient time before they move them on to another activity. This is because staff sometimes intervene too soon to direct children's chosen play. Consequently, children are not always in full control of their own play ideas.

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

Staff have a good understanding of their safeguarding procedures. This means that children remain safe and well protected. Robust recruitment and an annual cycle of staff appraisals are in place. This ensures staff's continued suitability to work with children and opportunities to support their own professional development. Aspects of the provision, such as partnership with parents are excellent. The staff ensure that parents are kept well informed of their children's progress, through daily diaries, termly reports and regular parents' evenings. The playgroup has strong links with other settings, as they invite parents and toddlers from the children's centre to visit them on a monthly basis. Effective links are in place with local schools in the area to ensure that children's move to school is smooth.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY303776
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1001079
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	69
Name of provider	Market Drayton Infant & Nursery School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01630 652 909

Longslow Ladybird Playgroup was registered in 2006. The playgroup employs six members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The playgroup, opens from Monday to Friday, from 8.55am until 3pm during term time only. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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