

Little Lambs Pre-School

Shepherdswell County First School, Billingwell Place, Springfield, Milton Keynes,
MK6 3NP



Inspection date	4 February 2015
Previous inspection date	6 July 2010

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

- Staff plan and deliver a wide range of stimulating activities, which engage children fully in learning across the seven educational programmes.
- Key persons routinely monitor and track children's progress. This enables them to plan consistently for their next steps in learning. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff are sensitive to children's emotional, welfare and cultural needs. They nurture them, making them feel at ease.
- The leadership team manages the provision efficiently and consistently meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not always effective in sharing information with colleagues about the specific next steps planned for their key children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance arrangements for staff to share information about their key children's next steps for learning with colleagues, to help all staff consistently support every child during play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and discussed activity plans with the manager.
- The inspector reviewed information about suitability of staff with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation and discussed self-evaluation and improvement plans with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took note of their views.

Inspector

Cordalee Harrison

Inspection findings

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

Staff skilfully pace the education of children who are learning English as an additional language. This helps these children to develop their English quickly. Stories with familiar characters and the use of props excite and challenge the children to listen well and speak clearly. Staff use many well-planned activities to engage purposefully with children. Children use pretend play to practise communication and social skills. They deepen their understanding of mathematics as they create three-dimensional shapes. Children develop early writing as they make marks in their messy play. They use fingers and implements to create patterns and shapes. Children play outdoors daily and staff use these activities to extend children's understanding of the importance of exercise and fresh air.

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

Staff inform parents well about children's progress. They work closely with them to follow children's individual routines and meet their personal needs. Staff model play and good behaviour, which helps children to try new things. Staff help children to develop good social skills and to learn right from wrong. Staff provide a range of good quality learning resources, including some that positively reflect disabilities and cultural diversity. Children are developing their understanding of self-care through routines. They have a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. Staff involve children in the preparation of snacks and teach them about foods that promote good health. Children increase their awareness of different aspects of safety through challenging outdoor play. Staff's constant supervision helps children to understand that their safety and well-being is important.

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

The leadership team makes good arrangements for learning and development, and safeguarding and welfare. Children make good progress in their learning and development and this prepares them well for school. There are appropriate arrangements to complete the required progress checks for two-year-old children. Staff know what to do if concerns arise about children's well-being and share this information with parents. The provision's recruitment procedures are robust. Staff make effective use of risk assessments to create and maintain safe environments for children. There are strong partnerships with parents and other professional's, such as foundation stage class teachers. There are effective staff management systems including, supervision, team meetings and ongoing training. The leadership team uses training successfully to gain improvement for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY320916
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	834610
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Little Lambs Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	6 July 2010
Telephone number	01908 665418

Little Lambs Pre-School registered in 2006. It operates within Shepherdswell First School in Milton Keynes. It is open each week day from 08.30am until 11.30pm and 12.15pm until 3.15pm during term time. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four. Five staff work in the pre-school, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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