

Little Hoots Ltd

Grangefield Approach, Voxwell Lane, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
GL52 8GL



Inspection date

13 February 2015

Previous inspection date

24 September 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		Outstanding	1
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 provide well-planned activities across all areas of learning that ensure children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The quality of teaching is good and supports the good progress children make especially in their development of spoken language.
- Staff establish excellent relationships with children, and especially with those for whom they take special responsibility. This approach ensures children's wellbeing and supports their development of independence.
- Staff provide a welcoming environment where safeguarding children and their protecting their welfare is given high priority.
- Staff regularly review the quality of provision and use the self-evaluation process effectively to identify areas for improvement.
- Strong partnerships with parents and professional bodies effectively support the meeting of children's individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide clear explanations to children at the start of group activities so they can participate as well as possible.
- Staff provide few opportunities for children to explore and investigate the natural environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children receive clear explanations at the start of adult-led groups to enable them to successfully engage in learning activities
- extend opportunities for children to explore and investigate the natural environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to some children and the staff.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of the pre-school's documentation.
- The inspector made a number of observations of activities, indoors and outside, including undertaking a joint observation with the manager, and looking at the toys, resources and equipment available for children's use.
- The inspector held discussions with the two managers, which covered methods for checking children's learning and progress, and for evaluating the provision and improving it.

Inspector

Edgar Hastings

Inspection findings

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

Staff work together well to plan interesting experiences that engage children in learning. Staff provide a good balance of adult led activities and those that children select for themselves. Staff make regular observations of children's progress and use this information well to plan what children need to learn next. Staff place a strong emphasis on encouraging children to engage in conversations, and to extend their vocabularies. Staff pay special attention to children of all abilities, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, through planning group activities. While staff prepare for these special activities well by having all the resources ready, sometimes children do not receive sufficiently clear explanations to succeed independently when capable of doing so. This reduces their sense of achievement. Staff keep parents up to date with children's progress and daily experiences so are partners in their children's development

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

Staff provide a very secure and inviting environment in which children settle quickly. Staff develop children's self-confidence well. Children are keen to participate. Children behave exceptionally well because staff implement a behaviour management policy that encourages the resolution of issues in a positive manner. Staff create a positive ethos and are good role models to children. Staff promote healthy lifestyles well. Children benefit from daily opportunities to be active in the outdoor area where they extend their physical skills. Children learn to keep themselves safe. Staff provide excellent preparation for children's next stages in learning. Staff encourage children to develop good self-care skills through daily routines. Staff build strong links with the host school, and other schools and settings to which the children transfer to help provide children with consistent care.

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

The two managers meet requirements and have ensured the staff have a sound knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. Staff meet regularly to plan and review activities and to check children's progress. Management make effective use of a quality assurance scheme to help drive improvement. Staff are fully involved in the self-evaluation process. The quality of teaching is checked regularly, and staff undergo annual performance-management interviews. Staff are encouraged to engage in further training, including gaining further qualifications, to improve their knowledge and skills. Undertaking relevant courses has helped them improve their teaching in language and literacy.

Setting details

Unique reference number	510075
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	846862
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	64
Name of provider	Little Hoots Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2010
Telephone number	01242 678400

Little Hoots Ltd registered in 2008. It operates from a purpose-built annex situated within Grangefield Primary School, Bishops Cleeve. Little Hoots offers pre-school sessions on weekdays during term time from 9am to 3pm, and before and after-school care from 8am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 5.30pm. A holiday club operates in the school holidays. Little Hoots employs seven members of staff to work with the children. All hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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