

Little Bears Day Care

Brownlow Community Centre, Claypit Street, WHITCHURCH, Shropshire, SY13 1LF



Inspection date

10 March 2015

Previous inspection date

24 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 good leadership and management team show a strong commitment to improve outcomes for all children. There have been several successful improvements since the previous inspection. These include systems to evaluate all aspects of the provision and the effective deployment of all staff. A number of safeguarding and welfare changes have also been implemented.
- Safeguarding of children is good because staff know the procedures to follow and a policy is in place, which underpins practice. This is reviewed and updated regularly. Safety is maintained because the premises are secure and staff are vigilant regarding access to the setting.
- Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning because staff provide appropriate support to prepare them for when they start, as they progress between rooms in the nursery and when they move onto school.
- The quality of teaching is good because staff provide a wide range of stimulating and challenging activities. They effectively support children to make good progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- Children are happy, settled and emotionally secure. They relish the inviting, child-friendly surroundings, enjoy each other's company and form close bonds with the kind, attentive and enthusiastic staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Leaders and managers do not use the information gathered from the assessment of individual children's progress to establish an overview of the effectiveness of teaching in each area of learning. Therefore, improvements to the educational programme, are not always sharply focused to have the greatest impact.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use the information gained from monitoring individual children's progress to establish a clear overview of how effective teaching is within each area of learning, so that future support is even more precisely focused.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents, and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and sampled a range of other documents.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector reviewed written comments from parents and took account of views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Ron Goldsmith

Inspection findings

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

Children are confident and happy. They make good use of the environment, exploring and making choices about what they want to do. Children enjoy learning how to make the sounds of letters. Staff encourage children's learning with open questions and make sure each child can be involved. Children are inquisitive learners and concentrate well. They are becoming more independent. In a planned activity to explore objects that float and sink, children eagerly make suggestions. Children begin to understand why this happens and they are developing words and language to describe what they see. They show that they are active and motivated learners. Children develop their writing skills as they use pens and paper to make marks outdoors. They relish these fun learning opportunities. Consequently, they make good progress in all areas of learning and development. Staff allow children time to consider and respond to questions. This motivates children's thinking and promotes their communication and language skills.

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

Children's emotional well-being is fostered. Also, close relationships are established with staff and between children. Staff are kind and caring. They implement effective strategies to support children while settling in. Indoors, the environment is safe, welcoming, well organised and well resourced. The outdoor play area has recently been upgraded, so that it can be used in all weathers. Children happily explore and investigate here, developing all their sensory skills. They enjoy physical activities and exercise, making mud pies or singing with staff. They make marks with pens and paper and independently choose resources from those stored outside. Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles and safe practices. Children eat snacks and meals prepared by their parents and served by staff. They are well behaved. Positive strategies used by staff promotes children's confidence and self-esteem. Staff help children to share, take turns and develop positive attitudes to others. This prepares them for their future education.

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

Following the previous inspection, self-evaluation, staff deployment, supervision and safeguarding, have been improved. Policies and procedures have been reviewed and staff have been fully briefed on all procedures to keep children safe. A robust recruitment and vetting process checks each staff member's suitability to work with children. Supervision and appraisals are effectively used to assess staff skills and to identify any areas for improvement. Staff are encouraged to share good practice, for example, through peer assessment. Systems are in place to monitor the progress of children and their learning. However, the information gathered is not consistently analysed to make sure all areas of learning are covered as effectively as possible. Good relationships with parents and other early years professionals means that children's needs are fully understood and met. The nursery has worked effectively with the local authority to talk about and implement changes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426728
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	993060
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	102
Number of children on roll	114
Name of provider	Bargates Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2014
Telephone number	01948 662146

Little Bears Day Care was registered in 2011. The nursery employs 13 members of staff. All of these hold appropriate early years qualifications, including five at level 2, five at level 3, one at level 5 and one who is an Early Years Professional. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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