

Little Badgers Playgroup

St Peter's Parish Centre, High Street, Whetstone, Leicester, LE8 4AJ



Inspection date

17 March 2015

Previous inspection date

8 May 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 staff team has good assessment and planning systems for individual children, which help them make good progress.
- Staff give safety very high priority. They teach children good safety routines.
- Staff take great care to build strong attachments with children, so children feel extremely confident and secure.
- Management monitor all aspects of the provision effectively, which strengthens staff practice, and the outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with other professionals are effective and help children to be ready for the move to school. Partnerships with parents are effective, contributing well to meeting children's needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff do not always make rich, varied resources accessible to children.
- Staff provide few natural resources for children to explore and investigate.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the range of readily accessible resources to provide children with rich and varied experiences to support their imaginative play and problem solving
- increase the range of natural resources and objects in order to enhance the programme for children's understanding of the world, with particular regard to nature, so children are well motivated to explore the natural world around them, its similarities and differences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the manager, and other key members of staff.
- The inspector carried out observations of activities in each room and outside, including observations with the setting manager
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including children's assessment records, planning documents evidence of staff suitability, and the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspectors took account of the views of parents and carers through discussion, and reading documentation and questionnaires.

Inspector

Julie Dale

Inspection findings

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

Managers and staff have a secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements, and a good understanding of how children learn through their play. They use this knowledge to provide good teaching. Staff have high expectations of themselves and the children. Staff extend children's language and mathematical skills well by asking thought-provoking questions. Their good understanding of children's preferences enables them to provide a variety of activities following the children's interests. However, staff do not always provide rich, varied resources to promote children's imaginative play, such as materials that can be used different ways to extend their skills in how to solve problems. Parents receive regular, thorough feedback, helping them to feel included in their children's learning. They have easy access to a broad range of useful information about activities and learning objectives. Consequently, they are fully included and are helped to understand how to support their children's learning at home.

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

Staff give the utmost regard to the safety of children and ensure that resources and equipment are appropriate to their individual needs. Staff teach children to develop healthy lifestyles, and to learn about the importance of exercise and eating healthily, through stories, activities and participating in daily planned events. Furthermore, staff are good role models ensuring children consolidate their learning by listening and watching the staff during their daily tasks. Children frequently participate in physical activities. Children make full use of the equipment available in the outdoor learning space. They show their delight and skills when they steer the bikes and trikes around, or practise throwing and catching balls to one another. Children develop competent skills in managing their needs, such as pouring their drinks carefully at snack times. Staff manage children's behaviour consistently. They deal with any minor disputes well, so these are diffused very quickly. This approach helps children get on well together, know what is expected of them, learn to take turns and how to value one another.

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

Managers and staff have a thorough understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The policies and procedures underpin practice effectively, and are clearly understood and implemented by all. Well-established recruitment and vetting procedures mean that staff undergo robust suitability checks. A broad range of monitoring and performance management systems help managers to effectively support staff. As a result, they identify and address any practice or training issues quickly. In addition, managers and staff work very well together and pay high regard to each other's strengths and areas of expertise. Therefore, they create a very supportive and positive environment for children to learn through purposeful play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410320
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	979628
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Cheryl Ellen Henderson
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2014
Telephone number	07903 468 932

Little Badgers Playgroup was registered in 2010. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Tuesday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.15pm on Tuesday and Thursday, and 9.15am to 12.15pm on Wednesday and Friday. The playgroup provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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