

Willow Garden Day Nursery

176 Heath Road, Orsett, GRAYS, Essex, RM16 3AP



Inspection date 8 April 2015
Previous inspection date 2 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The nursery provides a rich and vibrant learning environment, where children are highly stimulated. Varied and imaginative play experiences for children, especially outdoors, are delivered by staff who have excellent knowledge of the areas of learning and a clear understanding of how children learn.
- Children play a full role in their learning and have established very close relationships with all the staff. They show great confidence and independence as they explore the stimulating environment happily and with self-assurance.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional and a particular strength at the setting. The nursery entirely values parents as partners and places the highest priority on working closely with all parents.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection issues, due to regular training, and are very confident about the procedures to follow if they have concerns. Staff fully understand their responsibilities to provide safe play environments for children and are vigilant and responsive at all times.
- The management team show a strong focus and passionate drive to provide excellent care and inspirational learning for children. Staff are highly motivated and work exceptionally well together, creating a secure, safe and wonderful learning environment for children. Self-evaluation processes actively contribute to sustaining the highly effective provision and the outstanding service they provide.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already very good provision of information and communication technology resources, in order to enhance older children's opportunities to select and use technology for particular purposes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with children and the provider's improvement plan.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a teaching activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is inspirational as staff use their expert knowledge to identify specific starting points for each child and maintain exemplary records on how well they are progressing. They carefully evaluate each activity to help identify and narrow any gaps in the children's learning. Consequently, all children thrive and make very good progress in their learning and development, and are very well prepared for school. Communication is a consistently strong aspect of the nursery provision. Children successfully develop their spoken language as staff interact sensitively with the children at their own level, asking meaningful, open questions to skilfully challenge and extend their learning. Outdoors, children delight in searching for spiders and staff skilfully use this opportunity to extend children's learning through discussion. The extensive resources are of high quality and easily accessible to children. However, there is scope to further extend the already very good range of information and communication technology resources, to provide older children yet greater opportunities to enhance their technological skills.

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

Children show great respect for each other and behave with consideration and thoughtfulness, especially with younger children. They show they have a good sense of feeling safe in their environment by confidently seeking out assistance or comfort from staff when they need it. The children's sense of belonging is fostered exceptionally well, and their photographs, paintings and collages are displayed all around the environment. Excellent self-help skills are being developed as even young children are supported and encouraged to serve themselves and pour their own drinks at meal times. While outdoors, staff support children to safely take risks and explore through play, with learning extended through playful teaching. As a result of the exceptional care offered by staff, children learn independence skills which will support and promote their future learning and eventual move to school.

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

The management team demonstrate an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and their responsibility to promote the learning and development of all children. They monitor the levels of planning and assessment to make sure these are consistent and display an accurate understanding of all children's skills, abilities and progress. In addition, a closely monitored tracking system helps to ensure all children are making rapid progress and close any identified gaps in their learning. Staff have high expectations and are motivated exceptionally well by the manager and senior staff. There is a comprehensive and ongoing programme for staff development. For example, recent team training on behaviour management successfully supports staff to promote children's positive behaviour, through the consistent use of highly effective behaviour management strategies. The nursery forms very successful links with local schools, in order to support children's future move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY438186
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	853902
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	68
Name of provider	Little JS Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2012
Telephone number	01375384787 07788817718

Willow Garden Day Nursery was registered in 2012. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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