

Little Wings

The Childcare Centre, Kersley Crescent, Odiham, Hook, Hampshire, RG29 1QH



Inspection date

13 April 2015

Previous inspection date

6 August 2012

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 have a good understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, children choose between carefully planned activities that help to ensure they make good progress.
- Staff inspire children to try new activities, gain confidence, and develop self-control through a diverse range of daily experiences.
- Children enjoy lengthy periods in the fresh air as staff help them to understand the importance of physical activity and they explore mathematics in their mud kitchen.
- The manager and staff clearly understand and implement their policies and procedures for safeguarding and protecting children's welfare. Children's well-being is paramount to all staff. They diligently follow daily procedures to help keep children safe and healthy.
- The manager bases her clear development plan on a thorough system of evaluation, which includes the views of children, their parents and her staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff development tends to depend upon in-house supervisions and staff meetings. There is little support for staff currently extending their professional training in their own time. Staff's enthusiasm for improving the quality of their work with children is not always fully realised.
- The policies and procedures for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are out of date and so staff have to conduct independent research. In addition, parents find some information difficult to locate and navigate as policies are lengthy and riddled with jargon.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend training opportunities and support for staff to ensure all teaching is of the highest quality
- ensure key policies and procedures reflect major changes to legislation and guidance promptly, and that information for parents is clear and easily accessible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the nursery and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding, staffing, supervision, risk assessment, equal opportunities, and health and safety, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records, the nursery's systems for planning, evaluation, and exchanging information with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

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

A capable and conscientious team of staff makes frequent observations and clear assessments of children's learning and development. This supports their planning and delivery of good-quality learning experiences, which meet the individual needs of the children. For example, staff teach babies to become effective communicators, and toddlers benefit from ample opportunities to practise sharing. Pre-school children speak with confidence as they express their thoughts. They eagerly explore books and writing as staff and parents share ideas during literacy workshops and circulate story bags. The manager carefully monitors and reviews children's progress. Consequently, staff and parents quickly identify and manage any particular strengths, gaps or delays in children's development. Staff's enthusiasm for discovery, and their prompt praise for children's efforts, fosters children who are eager and motivated to explore, investigate, and persist when problem solving.

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

Experienced and caring staff are very effective in helping young children feel emotionally secure. Staff also teach children to follow good hygiene routines, choose healthy snacks, and keep themselves fit for play. Staff ignite children's interest in how to nurture plants and care for their environment. Children greatly enjoy filling their home-built, ecological greenhouse with vegetable and flower seedlings grown in spare recycled plastic bottles. Staff encourage children to explore, learn about keeping themselves safe, and take well-supervised risks in their play. Children develop increasing levels of independence as they manage aprons or coats, and find or tidy away resources. The manager, a qualified and experienced early years teacher, values and continues to develop close links with the local primary schools. This helps her staff to prepare children and their parents for their moves to school life, and the schools for their new intake of children.

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

Parents comment on recent improvements across the nursery as the manager and her deputy drive forward a succession of projects to raise standards for children of all ages. Regular supervision and team meetings focus on developing a stronger ethos of self-reflection. This challenges staff to develop even higher levels of competence as teachers as well as carers. This is particularly important as the leadership offers few opportunities for staff to enhance the quality of their teaching through external training initiatives. The company's policies and procedures are comprehensive, but not always up to date or easily accessible to parents and staff. This means that parents and staff spend additional time searching out current, useful, jargon-free guidance to secure the help that children need. Timely and highly effective support for children owes much to the dedication of the staff and their good partnerships with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427474
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	986608
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	61
Name of provider	Children's Links
Date of previous inspection	6 August 2012
Telephone number	01256 701487

Little Wings registered in 2011. It is located within the Royal Air Force camp in Odiham, Hampshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am until 5.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. Of the 16 members of staff, the manager holds Qualified Teacher Status and 14 staff hold relevant qualifications between level 3 and level 6.

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