

# Little Strawberries

275 Shobnall Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 2BE



## Inspection date

13 April 2015

Previous inspection date

16 May 2014

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>                          | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Good</b>          | <b>2</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|
|                                                                                        | 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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>                   |                         |                      |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- All staff have a good understanding of safeguarding policies and practice to ensure children's safety is promoted. Staffs' safeguarding training is regularly updated. Therefore, in the event of any concern regarding a child in their care they know what action to take.
- Teaching quality is good. As a result, children are engaged in good quality, well-planned activities and are motivated to learn.
- Children with English as an additional language and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. Close monitoring of children's individual progress supports staff to identify gaps in their learning and seek early intervention.
- Staff are kind and caring and children form strong and effective relationships with them. Because of this children feel safe and secure in their care.
- The manager has a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery. The manager involves staff, parents and children in the self-evaluation process. This is used to guide improvement and in turn supports children to achieve.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully developed the range of outdoor play experiences in order to provide further opportunities to promote children's imaginative play. This does not always fully support children who learn better outside.
- Leaders have not fully considered methods of how the nursery can share information more effectively with other providers, where care is shared.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of the outside play environment to enable children to access a broader range of toys and resources to further extend their imaginative play and to help them further develop their ideas
- strengthen arrangements for sharing information with other providers, where care is shared, to promote a more cohesive approach to moving children forward in their learning.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, a range of other documentation including policies, procedures, risk assessments and self-evaluation.
- The inspector discussed the children's progress with their key persons.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff working with the children.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Karen Laycock

## Inspection findings

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

The high level of qualified staff has a positive impact on children's learning. Staff assess children's abilities and get to know their current interests through observation as they play. This information is used to plan challenging and interesting activities and move their learning forward. Staff promote the prime areas of learning well. Children sing and dance during the music and movement session. This promotes their communication and physical skills and builds their confidence. Children freely access resources, such as, pencils, pens, paints, brushes and chinks. Using these resources, children develop pencil control, express imagination and write for a purpose. Some children attempt to write their names. Others draw the shapes they have been learning recently, experimenting with the creation of patterns. Staff demonstrate very good questioning skills. This promote children's thinking skills and language development. Babies and very young children have good opportunities to explore and investigate. Staff constantly talk to the children, which promotes their early language development. Staff organise the environment to promote their developing mobility. Older children are fully engaged as they sow cress seeds. They discuss how they will care for them and what they will need to do to help them grow. This promotes children's understanding of the world around them. Children enjoy the well-resourced outdoor play area where they climb, run and play chasing games. However, resources to further extend children's imaginative play outside has not been fully considered. Because of this, children's opportunities to further develop their thoughts and ideas are not always fully promoted.

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

Children sleep according to their individual needs and are well-supervised. Opportunities to value children's work are provided as staff display children's artistic creations prominently for children, parents and staff to appreciate. Staff encourage children to be active in order to develop their physical skills. Children behave well. They take turns as they play games with their friends. They show maturity as they share resources and actively encourage others to be involved in their play. Children learn to keep themselves safe as staff teach them to use large climbing equipment. This means they are acquiring the necessary skills and attitudes in readiness for their next stage of learning, including school.

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

Leaders and staff have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are robust procedures for recruitment and vetting in order to check that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager monitors staff performance through regular supervision and peer review. Staff and parents work cooperatively to support children's learning between home and the setting. However, leaders have not fully implemented an effective two-way flow of information with other providers, where care is shared. This does not fully promote a consistent approach to

support children's development.

## Setting details

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | EY227326                 |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Staffordshire            |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 1010710                  |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Full-time provision      |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 0 - 17                   |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 70                       |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 94                       |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Hannah Elizabeth Durose  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 16 May 2014              |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 01283 845554             |

Little Strawberries was registered in 2002. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff, all of whom hold childcare qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, from 7.30am until 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery provides support for those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

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