

Little Treasures Nursery

The Haven, 222 Livingston Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 8JW



Inspection date

16 April 2015

Previous inspection date

25 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
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		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Assessment of children's learning is too variable and does not sufficiently inform activity planning. Staff do not accurately complete children's two-year-old progress checks. Therefore, they do not provide parents with a comprehensive review of children's progress, or put in place effective strategies to address any learning gaps.
- The planning of activities does not always meet children's individual needs and level of development. This results in some children's progress being weaker than others.
- Role-play areas lack variety and resources to enable children to develop their imaginary play.
- Self-evaluation does not effectively include a review of staff training and the quality of teaching to support children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Children grow in confidence and independence. They develop a sense of security due to the positive support from staff. This promotes their sense of belonging, self-esteem and interest in learning.
- Children's health needs are supported well. They have opportunities to rest, as well as plenty of exercise in the fresh air. Children enjoy nutritious snacks and meals.
- Staff ensure that the nursery is safe and secure. They lock entrance doors, check the identity of all visitors and risk assess the premises daily.
- All staff are confident in their knowledge to safeguard children, particularly with regard to child protection concerns.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure the progress check for two-year-old children clearly identifies the strengths and any areas where the child's progress is less than expected to enable the appropriate support to be implemented, and involve parents in this process
- ensure the planning and implementation of activities takes into account each child's individual learning styles, age and stage of development.

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

- enhance the provision of role-play activities and resources to make it easier for children to extend their learning by acting out familiar and imaginary scenarios
- make better use of self-evaluation to monitor and address weaknesses, to further enhance the quality of teaching to help children make good progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager and observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and the manager's self-evaluation.
- The inspector had discussions with the deputy manager, staff and some parents on the day.

Inspector

Gillian Cubitt

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff plan activities that cover all areas of learning. However, while staff provide suitable support for some child-initiated play, such as drawing and using the computer, there are weaknesses in teaching during activities that staff direct. This is because staff do not reflect children's individual stages of learning. For example, children enjoy singing and counting, learning to use their fingers to add and subtract. However, some children lose interest when staff introduce two-dimensional shapes. They lack understanding and are not able to complete the activity by replicating these on paper. Younger children practise cutting and sticking in craft activities but staff overlook the learning aims of each child. Children's creativity is limited because of the ineffective organisation of role-play and craft resources. Staff carry out observations but not all tracking of children's achievements is accurate. For example, the progress check for two-year-old children is completed and parents receive a report. However, each report is similar for all children and does not identify areas of children's strengths and the weaknesses to address. This means that some children's learning needs are not quickly addressed to close any gaps prior to moving on to their next stages of development.

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

Children behave well and are keen to learn because staff have high expectations and offer clear routines and boundaries. The timing of the use of bikes helps children to understand the benefits of sharing and taking turns. Older children benefit from garden activities, such as building a house, while younger children explore with water and sand. Children are sociable and confident, which supports their move on to school. Staff know the local schools well and help children prepare for these changes. Managers and staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. First-aid and child protection training is regularly updated. This, as well as the effective implementation of safe working policies and procedures, protects children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The manager has made improvements since the last inspection. The actions set have been addressed. As a result, staff supervision and meetings, together with training, have raised staff knowledge on child protection. Some self-evaluation is now taking place. However, managers are not effectively monitoring the quality of teaching and the assessments for children's learning. This results in weaknesses in teaching and children's learning. Overall, parents are positive about their children's time at the nursery and they feel suitably informed. The provision is aware of the importance of working in partnership with other health professionals to support children's care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315402
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1000368
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Little Treasures Nursery (UK) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2014
Telephone number	0208 916 1254

Little Treasures Nursery registered in 2005. It is located in Thornton Heath, Surrey. There are seven members of staff, including the owner/manager. Of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status and five hold relevant qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, throughout the year, apart from statutory holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four.

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