

Little Owls Pre-school and Kidzone Out of school



Rudheath Community Primary School, Gadbrook Road, Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 7JL

Inspection date

24 April 2015

Previous inspection date

9 March 2009

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		Outstanding	1
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

- Teaching is outstanding. Children are extremely motivated to learn and are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Staff make excellent use of questions to promote children's language and thinking skills to an exceptional level. This ensures children are confident learners.
- Staff provide varied and imaginative experiences for children through a wonderful enabling environment both indoors and outdoors. Consequently, children engage in play and concentrate very well.
- Management show a strong commitment to improvement. They invest in additional training for staff, such as Every Child A Talker. This enables staff to focus on promoting children's language skills more effectively, including those children who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff promote excellent partnerships with parents, engaging them in their children's learning very well. Parents are invited to attend stay and play sessions so they can continue to extend their children's learning even further at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of progress for different groups of children does not fully take account of all groups. As a result, managers are not able to check that all children continue to make high levels of progress.
- On occasions, staff do not make full use of the safety procedures and equipment available when children from the out of school club are playing outside. This does not promote children's safety to an exceptional level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the systems for monitoring children's progress to provide more detailed information about the progress of all groups of children, such as boys and girls, in order that appropriate action can be taken when needed
- raise children's safety to an even higher level, for example, by making sure all staff follow the agreed procedures for contacting trained first aiders when children attending after school are playing outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the early years professional.
- The inspector observed activities in the pre-school, the out of school club and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and from information and feedback included in parents' questionnaires.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager of the provision and had discussions with other staff members about their roles and responsibilities, including safeguarding.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies and procedures which included safeguarding and complaints, children's learning records, and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Val Thomas

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is excellent and staff are extremely inspirational with lots of enthusiasm. Consequently, children are excited and listen intently to the story. Children's interest in dinosaurs is ignited by staff, as they build dens and volcanoes together outside. They look at the books, to compare the different dinosaurs and use binoculars to look for more. Staff promote mathematics to an exceptional level through all activities. Children are very skilled in counting and are able to add on and subtract. Older children have lots of fun as they play the corners game, and show good listening skills. Staff place much emphasis on developing children's literacy skills. They plan various group activities for letters and sounds and have sessions of funky fingers to develop children's grip when using pencils. This helps develop skills needed for early writing. Planning and assessment arrangements are precise and sharply focused on every child's needs, to ensure every child makes rapid progress.

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

Children have very good relationships with staff. As a result, children are confident and feel secure. Children behave very well and respond positively to the calm environment set by staff. Key persons work very closely with parents to help settle children and are very flexible when additional sessions are needed. This ensures children's well-being is promoted to a very good level. Staff place a strong emphasis on promoting a healthy lifestyle for children. They ensure good hygiene routines are followed and healthy eating is encouraged. Children have a fabulous time in the outdoor area. Older children enjoy playing football outside while pre-school children thoroughly enjoy engaging in imaginative play, pretending to be a super hero. All areas are safe for children to use and staff complete daily safety checks. However, staff do not always follow agreed safety procedures when older children are playing outside. As a result, children's safety is not always promoted to a very high level.

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

Leaders and managers effectively evaluate how the provision can be improved and have clear action plans in place. Child protection procedures are clearly understood by all staff and effective policies underpin their knowledge. This means children are protected from harm and the weaknesses identified at the last inspection have been fully addressed. Robust recruitment procedures make sure all staff are suitable to work with children. There is a good level of qualified staff, who attend additional training, to ensure they are able to support children's learning effectively. Regular supervision and monitoring of staff performance means that teaching skills are of a consistently high quality. Although, managers monitor individual children's progress closely, the tracking of certain groups of children is not as well developed. Staff work in partnership with other settings and professionals to ensure the individual needs of children are met to a very good level. There are effective links with the host school to ensure continuity in children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358819
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	857562
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	112
Name of provider	Jeanette Catterall
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2009
Telephone number	07931 562 458

Little Owls Pre-School and Kidzone Out of School Club was registered in 2007, and is situated within Rudheath Primary Academy. The pre-school and out of school club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3, one has a level 5 qualification, and one has Early Years Professional status. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The out of school club opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.50am until 8.50am and 3.15pm until 6pm, during term time and from 8am until 6pm during school holidays. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

