

Inspection date

28 April 2015

Previous inspection date

20 February 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 plan interesting topics across the areas of learning that support children's progress in their learning and development well.
- Children enjoy learning in a well-resourced, welcoming environment where staff plan to meet their individual needs and interests.
- Staff have good teaching skills and use assessment effectively to identify how well children are progressing, and to plan their next steps in learning. Therefore, children make good progress in their development.
- Key persons form strong relationships with children to help them settle and feel secure. All staff provide a strong focus on developing children's independence so that children develop confidence in taking care of themselves.
- Children are well protected through the secure safeguarding procedures that are in place, including safe recruitment practices.
- The manager and staff have developed a very strong partnership with the school that helps ensure children are well prepared for the move on to school. Strong links have been established with external services to ensure children get the support they need.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide children with the opportunity to express their individual ideas during adult-led creative activities.
- Few opportunities are provided in the outdoor environment for children to become familiar with letters of the alphabet and numbers.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop familiarity with letters and numbers when playing and learning in the outdoor area
- enable children to demonstrate their own individual creative skills when engaging in adult-led art and craft activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the staff and children about the activities undertaken.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the nursery's documentation including the safeguarding policy and procedures for recruiting new staff.
- The inspector made a number of observations of activities, including a joint observation with the manager. The inspector viewed the spaces, toys and equipment the children use, and opportunities for learning in the outdoor area.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, which covered methods for evaluating the quality of the provision, and for checking children's learning and progress.

Inspector

Edgar Hastings

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy attending the nursery because they quickly become familiar with the routines and confidently choose what they want to do. Staff provide a wide range of activities that interest children. For example, children enjoy a visit to a farm and the opportunity to have first-hand experience of getting up close to animals. Staff regularly engage children in conversation and ask them questions to encourage their communication and thinking skills. Children have the opportunity to listen to stories regularly, to sing repetitive songs and recite rhymes, and this supports their overall good progress. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop handling skills through painting, modelling and drawing. Children develop good skills using the computer mouse to move items from one part of the screen to another. Children learn about people from other cultures through the celebration of various festivals, including the Chinese New Year.

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

Parents confirm that their children are well cared for because staff are very supportive and caring, and ensure children are safe and their welfare needs are met. Children's well-being is promoted effectively and their individual needs are met through effective information sharing with parents. Staff are good role models and provide a positive ethos so that children learn how to respect each other and to work cooperatively. Children also learn to behave well as a consequence. Staff place a strong emphasis on helping children to develop a healthy lifestyle through promoting a balanced diet. Staff are knowledgeable about protecting children from harm, and know the procedures to follow should any child protection concerns be raised. They teach children self-care skills through the daily routines. This promotes their well-being and prepares them well for their future learning.

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

The manager and staff understand their responsibilities and fully implement the learning and development requirements. They meet regularly to plan interesting activities and to manage the children's next steps in learning through sharing information about each child's development. The manager monitors the quality of teaching and ensures staff have opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills through further training. Recently staff have undertaken courses that support the development of children's speaking and listening skills, and attended meetings that focus on children getting ready to transfer into full-time school. The manager and staff regularly evaluate the quality of provision in order to identify areas for improvement. The issues raised at the last inspection have all been addressed. Planned improvements on how often children use the outdoor area have been put into place. The organisation of routines has been revised so that they no longer disrupt children's play, and the manager has undertaken safeguarding training.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511769
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	846882
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Little Foxes Committee
Date of previous inspection	20 February 2012
Telephone number	01453 757 251

Little Foxes has been registered since 1994 and operates from an Elliot building situated within the grounds of Foxmoor Primary School, Stroud. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, during school term time only. Little Foxes also provides care for children before and after school, from 8am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm weekdays, during school terms. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three- and four-years-old. There are nine staff working with the children; of these, six hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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