

Little Blossoms Day Nursery



Scout Association, 45th Plymouth Scout Group, 1-2 Winnicott Close, PLYMOUTH, PL6 6JW

Inspection date	28 April 2015
Previous inspection date	7 October 2010

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

- The nursery is led and managed in a way that fully promotes children's care and welfare, and meets their learning needs well.
- Staff skilfully interact with the children and, as a result, children develop good communication and language skills.
- Effective assessment procedures ensure staff are aware of the developmental stages for each child. This supports children when moving on to the next stage in their learning.
- Children learn how to stay healthy and well, as they develop good personal hygiene through daily routines and have regular opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise.
- Very good links between home and pre-school help parents to be fully involved with their children's learning. Staff also work in partnership with other professionals, to meet children's needs effectively.
- Staff are knowledgeable about child protection procedures and place emphasis on safety in the environment. They know the procedures to follow well, should they have concerns about a child.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise group activities successfully so all children concentrate and engage in learning opportunities.
- Staff do not always plan regular opportunities to further extend children's skills in using information, communication and technology toys and equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of group activities to further support all children's concentration and levels of engagement
- increase opportunities for children to develop their skills with programmable toys and equipment to develop their understanding of information, communication and technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector held meetings at appropriate times with the manager and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector looked at a sample of records relating to planning, and children's assessment and welfare.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of parents' views and of the provider's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Dawn Biggers

Inspection findings

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

The staff's strong understanding of how children learn means activities are planned to teach children key skills in readiness for school. For example, children show confidence with numbers, three dimensional shapes and engage in activities that help them learn about letter sounds. Staff use skilful interactions and questions to encourage children to communicate, think and solve problems. For example, when a child hides under a blanket, others are given clues to guess who is missing from the group, helping them to be interactive learners. A good range of sensory resources support younger children's explorations. They eagerly explore and make marks with paint, to practise their early writing skills, and use tools in the sand to promote their physical development.

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

Effective settling-in periods meet the children's individual needs. Good relationships with staff and other children promote their emotional well-being. Children develop good independence in their routine as they pour their own drinks. They learn about healthy choices, as they enjoy nutritious snacks. Children have high levels of self-esteem and confidence as they receive frequent praise, encouragement and help through good staff deployment. For example, staff engage at the younger children's level well to tell a story and children are eager to listen and participate. The outdoor area is used daily to promote the benefits of fresh air and exercise. Children enjoy various outdoor learning experiences, such as physical challenges with the bats, balls and balancing equipment.

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

The leadership team has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and is highly committed to children's safety, well-being and learning. The effective review and monitoring procedures mean that staff deliver good quality education. They provide various challenges through a good range of experiences, overall. This results in children's individual learning needs being met well. The staff team drives improvements through ongoing self-evaluation. They gain feedback from the staff and parents. The use of home link books and improved tracking processes provide greater information for parents and engage them well in their children's learning. Management has good procedures to check that staff are suitable to work with children. Supervision, appraisals and training feature strongly to further support the staff's professional development. Planning identifies activities specifically to enable staff to observe the older and younger children to effectively track and monitor their good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY408947
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	831713
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	Debra Paice & Tamara Devlin Partnership
Date of previous inspection	7 October 2010
Telephone number	01752 707707

Little Blossom Day Nursery registered at the current premises in 2010. It operates from Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. There are six members of staff who work with the children, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at Level 2 and 3. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery receives support from the Local Authority.

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