

Little Apples of Bramley

Bramley Village Hall, The Street, Bramley, Tadley, Hampshire, RG26 5BP



Inspection date

1 April 2015

Previous inspection date

1 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	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		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff balance a variety of adult-led activities with plenty of time for children to follow their own interests, play and investigate. As a result, most children make rapid progress in their learning in relation to their age, starting points and capabilities.
- Staff reliably identify children whose learning and development is not at a typical level for their age. They help parents to secure timely diagnosis from specialist agencies and carry through early interventions designed to help children make optimal progress before they move to school.
- An excellent range of learning opportunities outdoors, combined with high levels of supervision and good teaching, promotes children's physical skills. For example, children practise climbing, balancing and pedalling. They also stir mud pies, paint and enjoy imaginative play.
- Children have access to a wide range of good quality resources, enabling them to make independent choices. They become increasingly independent in managing their personal needs.
- Staff promote the good health of the children as they teach them how to choose nutritious food at snack time and establish excellent hygiene routines.
- Staff keep detailed records of any accidents or injuries that occur on the premises or prior to the child's session. They share this information with parents promptly and review records to assess the need for any changes in pre-school practice.
- The staff establish good relationships with parents, keeping them well-informed about their child's progress and welcoming their comments and suggestions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's investigation of natural outdoor habitats to increase opportunities for them to learn to manage age-appropriate risks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the pre-school and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding and equal opportunities, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records, the pre-school's planning, evaluation, and the information exchanged with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with each of the co-managers.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy and make very good progress in their learning. This is because staff have a clear understanding of children's individual achievements, needs and next steps in development. Staff deliver an extensive range of indoor and outdoor activities and experiences that spark children's imaginations and enthusiasm for learning. The quality of teaching is often outstanding as staff nurture children's ability to motivate themselves, persist when tasks get tough, and take pleasure in their work. However, on occasion, some staff do not fully encourage children in their exploration of natural habitats. This means they do not take all opportunities to challenge children to plan to solve problems and manage small risks for themselves. Staff work closely with each other, with external agencies, and with parents to address any gaps or delays in children's learning. Highly effective working practices between staff at the pre-school and local schools greatly improve children's social and emotional preparation for the next stage in their learning.

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

Staff are particularly skilled in recognising children's needs and in tailoring activities and care to help them grow in confidence and communication skills. Staff offer different small group activities such as cooking, craft work, board games and puppets shows throughout the day. They use these to nurture specific skills and interactions between children with different strengths and needs. In this way staff promote friendships, respect, and empathy for the feelings of others. Children's behaviour across the pre-school is generally very good. Staff expectations are clear, consistent, and positive so children rise to them. Senior staff help families engage with more specialist support when appropriate. Staff also go to considerable lengths to provide a solid foundation for children and their families, while they are adapting to challenges and changes at home.

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

An exceptionally well-informed, dynamic leadership team understand and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to a high standard. Staff recruitment, supervision and training have a strong focus on safeguarding and child protection. Senior staff regularly review and update all mandatory documentation for the safe management of the pre-school. Staff diligently follow daily practices to help ensure children are safe, healthy and feeling secure. Well-qualified staff, led and monitored by experienced and highly-qualified managers, work exceptionally effectively together. Staff provide excellent role models for visiting students who add a further valued dimension to the team. Staff are enthusiastic, motivated and regularly evaluate the impact of their work. Consequently, they are constantly improving the children's learning experiences, progress, and care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507965
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	846841
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	Little Apples of Bramley Committee
Date of previous inspection	1 July 2010
Telephone number	01256 886 408

Little Apples of Bramley registered in 1970. It operates from Bramley, Hampshire. The pre-school opens each weekday during school terms from 9am to 12 noon. Staff also operate a breakfast club from 8.30am every weekday. Afternoon sessions run from 12 noon to 2.45pm each day except on Tuesdays when staff also operate a lunch club. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. Of the 12 staff who work with the children, 11 hold relevant qualifications at Level 3 or above, including the joint manager who holds a relevant degree. One member of staff is a fully qualified nurse and the committee also employs an administrator.

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