

## Inspection date

19 May 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff deployment and management of staff-to-child ratios, on occasion, has meant that staff have not consistently promoted high-quality teaching.
- Key persons are not always using their observations to plan learning tailored to individual children or promoting successful partnerships with parents, to secure all children's good progress.
- In recent months, management have not had a strong enough focus on monitoring the quality of staff's practice and performance. As a result, teaching and the planning of challenges for children is variable across the nursery.

### It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and have positive relationships with staff. Children behave well and staff positively praise their achievements. Children use a varied range of resources across all areas of learning and staff provide activities based around their interests. Staff working in the pre-school plan well for older children's learning and readiness for school.
- Management and staff work closely with any other agencies and professionals involved in children's care and learning. This ensures children with specific, identified needs receive any additional support they need.
- Staff are aware of their responsibilities in reporting child protection concerns to relevant agencies, so that they protect children from harm. Effective recruitment, vetting and induction procedures help check that all staff are suitable for their roles.
- Children enjoy a varied range of nutritious meals and snacks that promote their health and meet their individual dietary needs. Staff ensure they incorporate children's individual sleep routines into the day, to promote continuity for children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the deployment of adults and staff-to-child ratios promote high-quality teaching and learning at all times
- ensure each child is swiftly assigned an individual key person, who effectively and consistently uses information from observations to assess and plan challenging activities, that are tailored to meet each child's individual learning needs
- ensure all key persons work closely with parents to promote a common and shared approach to promoting children's learning, and to ensure information gathered about children's starting points is consistent across the nursery.

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

- embed the approach to supervision and monitoring of staff's performance and practice to ensure all staff promote good quality teaching and consistently aspire to improve children's learning and progress over time.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all playrooms and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the children and members of staff. She held discussions and meetings with the manager and nominated person during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out three joint observations with the manager and nominated person.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies, procedures and self-evaluation. She checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- Ofsted carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.

### Inspector

Helen Blackburn

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching across the nursery is variable. Overall, staff understand how children learn and they observe them to find out what children can do and enjoy. Some staff use this information well to plan for children's needs, especially to help older children gain the skills they need for school. As a result, older children talk about different shapes, they skilfully cut around objects and eagerly write their names. However, not all staff routinely use their observations to identify children's next steps in learning. As a result, planning is not always sharply focused and based on accurate assessments of children's learning, to secure all children's good progress. All children engage well in their play, they are busy and enjoy making their own safe and independent choices. Older children use their imagination as they cut up the vegetables and use them to make tea for their friends. Younger children and babies enjoy singing songs, which supports them in developing their vocabulary.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Staff have positive relationships with the children. They provide reassurance when they are upset and they supervise children so that they feel safe. However, due to recent staff changes, not all children have been swiftly assigned a new individual key person when transferring to another room. In addition, when settling new children, not all key persons are working consistently with parents. Some staff are not always making good use of the nursery 'All about me' form to gather information from parents about children's starting points and learning at home. Children regularly play outdoors and engage in physical activity. Children practise effective health and hygiene routines, so that they develop good self-care skills and keep healthy. Staff praise children's achievements so that children have positive self-esteem and confidence in their abilities. Staff have close links with the local schools and they work together to support children when they move on to school.

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

The inspection took place following concerns being raised about the provider's ability to promote and safeguard children's welfare. The inspection found that in recent months, staff shortages and poor deployment have affected meeting adult-to-child ratios and the effectiveness of key-person arrangements. During this time, management and staff worked well to keep children safe and to meet their care needs. However, the quality of teaching was not to a consistently high standard because of these staff shortages. This is because management have been covering for absent staff and not always using supervisions and training to robustly monitor staff's practice. Therefore, despite staff's qualifications, good quality teaching and the planning of sufficient challenge for children is not consistent enough to secure all children's good progress. Staff complete regular safety checks, they routinely clean the environment and organise the space so children play safely. Staff maintain all required documentation and implement appropriate policies and procedures, such as the safe administration of medication.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY481310
<b>Local authority</b>	Kirklees
<b>Inspection number</b>	1014210
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	81
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	120
<b>Name of provider</b>	My Little Barn Owls Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01924412791

My Little Barn Owls Ltd was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, all staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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