

Little Gems Nursery

Methodist Church, Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5NU



Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

14 May 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 provide stimulating and imaginative experiences for all the children, which motivates them to learn and helps them achieve well. However, children do not always have regular opportunities to learn about using technology, such as computers.
- Assessment is precise and sharply focussed and used to set clear targets to ensure that all children make excellent progress from their starting points.
- The key-person system enables staff to focus on the particular needs of children to help them feel very secure.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff share what children have learnt during the session to keep parents informed. This means that parents can continue to support their children's learning at home. Parents comment that they value the staff's dedication.
- The managers make sure that staff have plenty of opportunities to continually improve their practice through training and this ensures that the quality of teaching is of a consistently high standard.
- The owner has robust recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. This helps to keep children safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further increase children's opportunities to learn about technology through reviewing how much time is available to them to use a wide range of technology, including computers.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playrooms and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector spoke with the parents to gather their views on the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with the owner, the supervisor and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed children's files and observations, and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the supervisor.

Inspector

Karen Callaghan

Inspection findings

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

Staff skilfully plan learning opportunities that take into account the individual needs, interests and stage of development of each child. Activities are challenging and imaginative. They develop children's language skills. For example, staff ask the children for their ideas when constructing a creative space scene and children are keen to say what they will need and how they could improve their models. Children enjoy interactive story times, and staff skilfully use puppets and songs to engage all ages. Staff are constantly engaged with the children. They ask children questions and provide support to enable children to extend their learning. Staff closely monitor and track children's progress. Consequently, any gaps in children's progress are quickly identified and activities planned to help close those gaps. Staff use their expert knowledge and understanding of children's learning and development to carefully plan for the next steps in children's learning. As a result, children make excellent progress and are ready for school.

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

Staff create a highly stimulating and welcoming environment. Children have excellent relationships with their key person and other staff, who are very responsive to their needs. This promotes children's well-being and independence. Children are confident and happy to explore, while staff offer consistent praise and reassurance to help them feel secure. Children are highly skilled in preparing their own snack. They learn about healthy eating as well as safe practices as they cut fruit and pour their own drinks. This shows how staff extend children's independence skills and promote their sense of belonging and physical development. Children learn to manage their own behaviour with support from staff. Children's physical skills are well catered for by having a wide range of opportunities to climb and balance on resources, both inside and out.

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

The manager and staff implement the learning and development and safeguarding and welfare requirements very effectively. Staff attend regular safeguarding training and have excellent knowledge of how to report any concerns about children's well-being and safety. Staff are highly reflective and the proprietor seeks the views of staff, parents and children to contribute to the setting's development plan. For example, parents wanted more access to observe their children's learning in the setting and practice was changed to allow them to do this. Regular staff supervision means that the quality of teaching and learning is monitored to exemplary effect. Staff work closely with other professionals involved in children's development, including local teachers, to provide continuity of care and prepare children for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122407
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	836102
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	Little Gems and Little Treasures Ltd
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2010
Telephone number	01883 343678

Little Gems Nursery registered in 1989. It is situated in Caterham, Surrey. The nursery is open daily, from 9.15am to 12.15pm, during term time only. Children can bring a packed lunch for lunch club which operates four days a week until 1pm. The nursery employs seven members of staff, of whom four hold appropriate early years qualifications and the proprietor has Qualified Teacher Status.

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