

Little Learners Pre-School

Deering Centre, Longlands Close, Crossbrook Street, Waltham Cross, EN8 8LU



Inspection date

23 June 2015

Previous inspection date

21 September 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		Outstanding	1
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

- Management and staff are clear on their roles and responsibilities and have thorough understanding of the requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Staff plan and implement a broad range of rich and imaginative play experiences for children taking into account their interests.
- The quality of teaching is good and some practice is outstanding. Children benefit from a freely available outdoor space, which is overall well resourced. Therefore, children learn and develop in a stimulating and exciting environment.
- Children follow excellent hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and drinks, which promotes their good physical health and well-being.
- Leadership and management are strong. They provide good support to staff through supervision and promote their professional development via training. This helps staff to keep up to date and improve overall outcomes for children.
- The provider, manager and staff regularly review and reflect on the provision to drive improvement forward. This ensures consistency in provide a high-quality learning environment for children and their families.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of some circle-time sessions result in some children becoming slightly distracted with other groups around them. This reduces their concentration and level of engagement at times.
- Staff do not always that check resources are readily available and functioning for some activities, in order to increase children's learning experiences and enjoyment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of circle-time sessions to increase children's concentration skills further
- offer children a further range of suitable resources to help extend their play opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the hall and in the garden.
- The inspector sampled children's observations, planning and assessment and registration records.
- The inspector held conversations with the staff, parents and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the staff's suitability, qualifications and the nursery's policies and procedures and looked at self-evaluation form.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Nataliia Moroz

Inspection findings

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

Parents and staff have a close working relationship to meet children's needs. For example, staff observe and assess children's learning, which they share electronically with parents and provide further opportunities for parents to contribute to their child's progress. Staff ensure all children make effective progress in their communication and language by engaging in meaningful conversations and skilfully asking questions, giving them sufficient time to respond. Staff introduce sign language to extend children's communication skills. Furthermore, they plan group sessions and work with the speech and language therapist to support children with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language. Staff introduce mathematical language within children's play, such as teaching them to compare distance and different sizes during play. Children are learning to recognise letters and count syllables in their names. Therefore, they are effectively gaining the skills for their future learning. Staff support children in their transfer to school by introducing role-play scenarios where children get to try on school uniforms.

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

Children settle very quickly due to the highly effective settling-in sessions, which staff follow up by planning home visits. Consequently, children have positive relationships with all staff and their peers; they thrive in a relaxed and happy environment. Staff implement the key-person system extremely well to support children's well-being. They have an excellent knowledge of children, including their background and needs, which they use to tailor their plans. Therefore, children feel secure and valued. Staff provide an exceptional foundation for children to develop their independence skills. For example, children wash up their plates after meal times. Children behave extremely well. This is because staff are good role models and consistently teach children to share, take turns and be nice to each other.

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

The management team and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to effectively safeguard children and the procedures to follow for reporting any concerns. They provide a safe and secure environment for children to learn. The manager implements clear systems to monitor and plan for children's progress. She ensures all staff are able to effectively use monitoring processes to identify and close any gaps in children's learning and development. Effective partnerships with other settings and professionals help to maintain continuity for children at all times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405269
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	831374
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Little Learners Preschool Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2010
Telephone number	01992 623 467

Little Learners Pre-School registered in 2010. It operates in Waltham Cross. The pre-school is open during term time from 9am until 3.30pm. The morning session runs from 9am to 12pm, and the afternoon session from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. The provider is in receipt of funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The provider employs nine members of staff and one volunteer, eight of whom hold relevant childcare qualification of level 3 and above.

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