

Little Acers Pre-School

Bowland Green Primary School, Ellicks Close, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 0ES



Inspection date

22 June 2015

Previous inspection date

6 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		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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide a varied range of activities and experiences for the children both inside and out. As a result, children are well motivated and eager to explore.
- Almost all children make good progress in speaking and listening skills, especially those who are learning English as an additional language.
- The manager is very well organised and leads her team well. Professional development through regular training enables staff to make improvements.
- Care practices are excellent, and children are very well cared for and protected. They talk confidently about healthy choices and how to follow simple hygiene routines.
- Records of children's achievements are well organised and give good information about the next steps in learning. Staff use them well to help children make good progress.
- Children have very good relationships with their key person. As a result, they are confident and independent, and make very good progress in developing social skills.
- Good partnerships with parents ensure that their views are taken into account and that they are well informed about their children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all partnerships with other settings are fully successful to enable all children's move to school to be as seamless as possible.
- Active, physical play often involves all children in the small space. Staff do not organise smaller groups to make these sessions more successful.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reorganise physical activity time so that children have enough space to participate safely
- improve partnerships with all other settings to support children's move to the next stage of their education.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a variety of documentation, children's assessment books, planning, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector observed activities inside and outside, and the quality of teaching.

Inspector

Jennifer Cutler.

Inspection findings

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

The staff provide a range of activities both inside and outside to effectively promote children's learning and development in all areas. Children have access to a stimulating range of resources, and teaching is good because staff encourage children to investigate and experiment. At the inspection, children followed a trail of water as it overflowed from the dinosaurs' bathing tray. Helped by an adult, they experimented with diverting the water and making a dam. Such activities, and the emphasis on storytelling, enable children to make very good progress in speaking and listening. They have opportunities to develop physical skills by playing games in the classroom. Staff cater well for all children's individual needs because they have good relationships with parents, who are well informed about their children's progress. Staff and parents share regular two-way information about children's achievements. This contributes to good assessments and has a positive impact on children's learning and development, ensuring they are ready for the next stage of learning.

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

Staff are fully aware of their responsibilities to protect children and know what to do if they have concerns about a child. Children play in a secure setting. Their relationships with adults are strong, and they demonstrate confidence and independence. For example, they choose when to have a snack and sensibly wash their plates afterwards. Staff help them develop excellent social skills because they take the time to talk to them and gently explain how to behave well towards others. As a result, children care for one another, share toys and cooperate in games. Lunchtime is a happy social occasion where children learn good manners and enjoy chatting to friends.

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

The manager supports staff well through regular supervision meetings to ensure consistently good practice. She monitors the assessments of children's progress to ensure they include full information about a child's achievements and the next steps for learning. The manager and staff evaluate the setting well and know what to do to improve. For example, staff intend to review planning procedures to ensure that children make better progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340875
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	834965
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	LA Childcare Ltd
Date of previous inspection	6 October 2010
Telephone number	01454 866 745 or 07443640027

Little Acers registered in 2006 and operates from the Sure Start Centre in the grounds of Bowsland Green Primary School, Bradley Stoke, South Gloucestershire. The setting is open each weekday from 8.30am to 3.30pm during term time only. It is in receipt of government funding for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs six staff. All members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 3 and 4.

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