

Little Learners

Baptist Church Hall, Old Milton Road, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 6DQ



Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

17 March 2009

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		Good	2
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

- Staff provide a safe and secure environment in which they help children to learn about keeping safe in pre-school and on outings.
- Children enjoy lots of outdoor activities and active play to promote their health and physical development well.
- Staff promote positive attitudes and behaviour well. As a result, children share, take turns and form friendships with one another.
- Staff nurture children's independence well. Children manage tasks for themselves and carry out responsible jobs with enthusiasm. Alongside the good progress they make, this helps to prepare older children for their move to school.
- Management and staff successfully evaluate the quality of the pre-school provision to make ongoing improvements. As a result, they provide more resources to promote children's understanding of technology. They encourage parents to contribute to activities that help children learn about one another's home language and to feel valued.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not regularly encourage children to explore shapes in their play to extend their mathematical development.
- Staff do not keep parents consistently up to date regarding their child's next steps for learning. This means they are unable to focus on these to help them promote their child's learning further at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop children's mathematical development by providing more opportunities for them to learn about shape in their play
- strengthen children's learning at home by keeping parents consistently well-informed of their child's planned next steps for learning as they progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the hall and outdoor play area.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector assessed the suitability of staff and discussed management's knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan a good range of activities linked to weekly topics to help children achieve their next steps for learning. Staff use their good teaching skills to challenge children well in different aspects of learning. For example, at the inspection children dressed up as superheroes and pretended to rescue soft toys hidden in the hall. Staff provided clues and hints for children to listen to and learn to follow instructions. As a result, children listened well and looked up and down, in and under equipment and turned left and right as they moved around the hall. Staff encouraged children to take turns and counted with them as they waited for others to hide the toys. Children joined in with great excitement and cheered as they found the toys. Staff nurture children's confidence and self-esteem well and children take a pride in their achievements and enjoy showing others what they have made. This helps to prepare children well for their future learning.

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

The consistent staff team works well with parents when children start. They find out about children's home lives, interests, languages and aspects of development. This helps to settle children and promotes their emotional well-being effectively. Children choose freely and confidently in their play. At the inspection, children explored sand, water and a tray of natural resources in the outdoor play area. They chose utensils and containers to dig, carry and mix the resources together and to make pretend cakes in the mud kitchen. Children created their own writing games using mini clipboards to record what others wanted to buy from them to eat. As a result, children enjoyed their play and engaged for long periods.

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

Management and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They all attend training courses to ensure they have a good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard and protect children from harm. Management provides supervision sessions each term to monitor staff's knowledge and understanding of how children learn. Staff attend courses to help them meet children's needs well. For example, they attended training to promote children's communication and language skills. As a result, they use specific resources and activities with children in small groups to help extend their vocabulary and understanding. Parents complete questionnaires to share their views. They state that staff genuinely care about their children and they are happy with the care provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289871
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	833761
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Sarah Jane Marsh
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2009
Telephone number	07748608192

Little Learners Pre-school registered in 2004. It is privately owned and located in New Milton, Hampshire. The pre-school is open weekdays during term time only from 9am until 12 noon, and provides a lunch club on Monday, Wednesday and Friday until 1pm. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff, of whom one holds an early years qualification at level 5 and four hold qualifications at level 3.

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