

Little Lodge Nursery

Swinesherd, Spetchley, Worcester, Worcs, WR5 1RU



Inspection date

2 July 2015

Previous inspection date

16 June 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Babies and children flourish and settle quickly. They are reassured and are extremely well cared for by the kind and attentive staff and provider.
- The provider and staff thoroughly assess children's abilities, progress and next steps for learning. They consistently reflect the views of children, parents and other professionals as they plan and organise exciting and challenging experiences.
- The provider and staff expertly build on children's interests, understanding and abilities during activities. They skilfully enthuse and interact with babies and children, helping them to become extremely confident, articulate and resourceful learners.
- Children are skilfully helped to express their ideas and direct their own learning. For instance, babies and toddlers select a small toy which reflects their choice of songs. Older children plan activities and decide which resources they need.
- The provider and staff have a thorough understanding of possible signs of abuse and neglect. They keep up to date with local safeguarding protocols and procedures through training and discussions about good practice. The provider and staff are vigilant and conscientious as they work with families and other agencies to minimise the risks of harm to vulnerable children.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is exemplary. Thorough assessments ensure prompt identification of any delays. Staff are dedicated and professional in their work with parents and other professionals. This ensures children have early and coordinated support to make the best possible progress.
- Excellent partnerships with parents ensure children's needs are met exceptionally well. Parents views about their children's care, interests and abilities are followed up and they contribute to nursery activities, such as telling stories. The provider, staff and parents effectively plan how they will promote children's behaviour, independence and learning priorities at nursery and at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider providing babies and toddlers with more opportunities to develop a deeper sense of themselves as individuals and to recognise their own achievements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the babies' and toddlers' room, the cabin and in the outdoor areas. The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times. She held meetings with the provider and deputy manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their written feedback to the provider.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the provider's improvement plans.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She also looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

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

The provider and staff adeptly help babies and children to be highly skilled and confident learners who make rapid and sustained progress. They ensure learning is fun and challenging, expertly incorporating exciting first-hand experiences to inspire children to be curious, expressive and resourceful. Children are fully prepared for their future learning, including starting school. They have a very good grounding in early mathematics as they adeptly count and compare numbers. Children develop excellent early literacy skills. Babies and toddlers are attentive and readily join in songs and stories. Children in pre-school recall familiar refrains and features of a story's plot. They adeptly use letters and sounds and skilfully label their work. Babies and children relish exploring different materials. During a much enjoyed topic about mud, children make muddy foot prints, use mud and water slides, search for creatures in soil, and make apple and mud pies. They take photographs and look at books, then record their observations in drawings and collages.

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

Babies and children flourish in the child friendly, comfortable and reassuring surroundings. Parents highlight how well their children settle when they join or move within the nursery, responding to the kind and attentive staff who support and encourage them. During sessions, children enjoy many opportunities to mix and socialise, for instance, during outside play, story times or mealtimes. Children are also very well prepared emotionally and socially for school. Staff adeptly and consistently promote their good behaviour, positive relationships and growing independence in managing their personal care. Children are also given an excellent understanding of how to be healthy and keep safe. For example, through making sandwiches and cooking, children learn about foods that are good for them and how to safely handle utensils. Children relish being outside and being active. Here they are taught how to manage risks as they make their own obstacle courses and competently use a variety of wheeled toys and apparatus.

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

The provider and staff are passionate about their work with children and families. They are proactive and innovative in their efforts to provide the best possible service for them. The provider and staff thoroughly check all aspects of the nursery's provision. Their robust monitoring of children's progress ensures any gaps in children's learning, or in the educational programme, are swiftly addressed. Plans for improvement are timely and well targeted. Since the last inspection, babies' and children's learning has been enriched by changes to indoor and outside areas. This includes a well resourced and inviting classroom used by children in pre-school and school. The provider recognises the importance of helping younger children acknowledge their individuality and achievements, and intends to take steps to achieve this. The provider and staff are well-qualified. Astute performance and development procedures allow staff to continually develop their considerable

knowledge and expertise. As a result, their care and teaching are outstanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205126
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	942729
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	67
Name of provider	Jane Margaret Jones
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2011
Telephone number	01905 345400

Little Lodge Nursery was registered in 1989. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 2 or 3. The deputy manager has Early Years Professional status and a member of staff has a degree in Early Years. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Support is provided for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are close links with a local school.

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