

# Little Acorns Pre-School - Oakthorpe



Oakthorpe Primary School, School Street, Oakthorpe, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE12 7RE

## Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 2008

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff have a very good knowledge of children's individual learning and development needs. Good arrangements are in place to regularly assess and monitor children's progress.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported through well-established partnerships with parents and external agencies. This has been used well to help all children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- High priority is given to keeping children safe. Staff have a good awareness of how to act upon any concerns they may have regarding a child's welfare. The premises are thoroughly checked for hazards and all doors are locked throughout each session.
- Children have access to a small but stimulating outdoor environment. This area is well used by staff to support children's overall development.
- Children receive a warm welcome at this friendly pre-school, and their individual development is respected and supported.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, activities carried out in large groups are too long and not sufficiently focused to ensure that the youngest children extend their listening and attention skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen good teaching even further by ensuring all activities delivered within large groups are sufficiently focused and give appropriate consideration to the length of time children are required to sit, in order for the youngest children to sustain and develop their listening and attention skills.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all parts of the pre-school accessed by children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in both the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector carried out a meeting with the joint managers of the pre-school and discussed a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to during the inspection.

### Inspector

Julie Dale

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff are well qualified and use their knowledge effectively to promote young children's learning. Older children enjoy activities where they recognise letters of the alphabet, and staff support them well to think of objects beginning with certain letters. Practice is particularly strong when staff encourage children to count and use numbers in the outdoor environment. For example, children use numbers beyond 10 when they count the number of fish they have caught in a fishing game or when using building bricks to build a castle. As a result, they make good progress in their mathematical development. This gives children the skills they need in preparation for school. Staff plan a wide variety of adult-led activities for children to enjoy in large groups. This includes planned activities where the older and younger children enjoy joint sessions. However, occasionally group sessions are too long and not sufficiently focused on developing the youngest children's listening and attention skills.

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

Children are confident and enjoy themselves. They have developed a close bond and secure relationship with staff, which promotes their emotional well-being. Children visit with their parents before they start and parents are welcome to stay at the start of the day. During this time, staff obtain all the information they require to ensure children's needs are met well. Children are happy and well behaved. Staff constantly praise children's efforts and achievements, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Children get plenty of fresh air and physical exercise. Staff teach children to be independent, and develop good hygiene routines and self-help skills. They also help children learn how to keep themselves safe. All these skills help to prepare children well for their move to school. Good partnerships with school staff further support children as they move on to their next stage in learning.

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

The joint managers demonstrate a strong understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They maintain a good overview of the educational programmes, working alongside staff to reflect on the quality of what they do. This ensures activities take account of children's interests and stages of development. The managers are well supported by the other practitioners to maintain an overview of children's progress. This ensures children receive correct intervention where required. Staff are supported to enhance the effectiveness of their teaching through regular observations and effective supervision arrangements. Partnerships with parents are very strong and effective systems are in place to gather their views. Information is used well in developing improvement plans. This has a positive impact on the provision and supports children's achievements further.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	226232
<b>Local authority</b>	Leicestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	864366
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	37
<b>Name of provider</b>	Little Acorns Pre-School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 October 2008
<b>Telephone number</b>	07517636737

Little Acorns Pre-School was registered in 1998. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Four staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon on Mondays and 9am until 1pm for the remainder of the week. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

