

Smiley Faces

Bedford Gate House, Station Road, Thorney, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE6 0QE



Inspection date	24 July 2015
Previous inspection date	18 October 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children relish exploring and investigating. They excitedly act out favourite stories and revel in bug hunts in the garden.
- Children receive exceptional teaching, ensuring their individual learning needs are met. Adults securely embed literacy and numeracy through daily activities.
- More-able children and those who need extra support and nurturing are challenged to learn at the rate they are capable of, and staff use a wide range of strategies to meet their specific needs.
- Children use their energy and have fun as they jump in puddles in their all-weather suits, laughing and giggling.
- Children learn about their community as they enjoy trips on the bus to local parks, visit the village tea shop and join in with community charity events.
- Babies struggling to settle to sleep are sensitively cradled, rocked and sung to, enabling them to drift off to sleep in the arms of a trusted adult.
- Children learn about the value of vegetables as part of a healthy diet as they plant and grow their own produce, tend and harvest it. They cook and eat it as part of their meals, enabling them to see the food cycle in its entirety.
- Parents are superbly included in their children's nursery experience. They receive a warm welcome on arrival and benefit from a parent group, consultations, social events and shared learning as they borrow story sacks, treasure baskets and games to promote literacy and numeracy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the outdoor learning environment even further by considering additional ways for children to explore and use natural materials.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting with the managers.
- The inspector observed activities taking place throughout the day and made an evaluation of teaching practice seen with one of the managers.
- The inspector held meetings with the managers and spoke with adults and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies, procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of adults working within the nursery and the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Deborah Hunt

Inspection findings

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

Staff offer children very high-quality learning experiences as they have an excellent understanding of their specific learning styles and needs. Through the provision of superb resources and teaching, children make rapid progress. Children derive the maximum benefit from activities through the multi-faceted learning they receive. Babies are nurtured and gently encouraged to explore through their senses. They investigate paint squirted onto a table with wonder and learn about different materials and textures during heuristic play. Toddlers realise that learning is fun as they play hide and seek with inspirational staff, who encourage them to count and call out when found. Older children investigate a spider they find and make the most of their discovery as they recall previous learning, saying spiders have eight legs. Communication and language are superbly promoted through extensive use of specific training. Activities are enhanced by informed staff, and children's learning is maximised, preparing them superbly in readiness for school.

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

Children are treated as unique individuals at this welcoming, homely nursery. Parents are recognised as equal partners in children's learning, and staff find out detailed information so they can comprehensively support children's progress. Children settle easily as they receive exceptional care and support from sensitive, intuitive staff. Warmth of tone and personality across the team mean children flourish as they feel secure, valued and respected. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive nurturing, professional support, and inter-agency working is a key strength of the nursery. As a result, children make excellent progress from their initial starting points and the achievement gap narrows rapidly. Behaviour throughout the nursery is exceptional as children are happy and adults are excellent role models. The owners have plans to enhance the range of outdoor activities to further support children's sensory development.

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

The owners of this inspiring family-run nursery continuously seek ways of improving the already exceptional care and learning experience children are offered. They have an extensive understanding of how to run a successful nursery through their prior experience and the extensive, targeted training they continually undertake in search of further improvement. This extends to their dedicated team, who all undertake continuous professional development. Regular team meetings ensure training is cascaded, benefitting the whole team. Children are superbly safeguarded through stringent procedures and staff who know what to do if they have any concerns regarding a child in their care. Rigorous recruitment, induction, supervision and appraisals further safeguard children and mean staff feel supported.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY234865
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	870002
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Lindsey Evans & Hayley Lightfoot Partnership
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2010
Telephone number	01733 271076

Smiley Faces was registered in 2003 and operates from a converted building in Thorney, near Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The nursery is run by joint owner/managers. It employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm.

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. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email 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.

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
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

