

Little Tots Nursery

59 Prince of Wales Avenue, READING, RG30 2UJ



Inspection date

28 August 2015

Previous inspection date

13 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 interesting and stimulating experiences for children. They observe children and successfully plan for their individual needs. As a result, all children, including those with additional needs, make good progress from their starting points.
- Effective systems for working in partnership with parents, carers and other professionals mean that there is a consistent approach to children's care and learning needs. In addition, this helps to involve parents in their children's learning at home.
- Staff provide healthy snacks and meals, and teach children about hygienic practices. Children know to wash their hands at appropriate times and engage in conversations with staff about healthy foods and exercise. Consequently, children learn about healthy lifestyles.
- Staff praise children well and give them lots of encouragement. This supports children to gain confidence and supports their emotional well-being effectively.
- Managers reflect on practice effectively. They consider the views of parents and children in order to make positive changes. They have addressed the actions raised at the last inspection, to help raise standards and improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are few opportunities for children to see a variety of different languages in the environment, including all of the home languages of the children, to help them understand that all print has meaning.
- Staff do not offer children many opportunities to freely access technological resources, to support them to explore and extend their understanding of early technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to see a variety of languages in the environment, including all children's home languages, to help them understand that all print has meaning
- provide more opportunities for children to freely access and explore technological resources, to further develop their early technology skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.
- The inspector observed children and staff during play and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents, staff and children to gain their views.
- The inspector examined a selection of children's records, policies and other documents.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation process with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified staff have a good understanding of how children learn through play. They provide a broad range of resources and activities that are suitable for children of different ages and abilities. Staff interact well with children to promote their speaking skills; they engage them in conversations, and extend the vocabulary of younger children and those who are learning English as an additional language, as they repeat words for them to hear. Staff build on children's mathematical understanding, teaching them about shapes, sizes and numbers. They take opportunities during routines to encourage children to count. For instance, as children serve themselves fruit, staff ask them how many pieces they have on their plate. Children's early literacy skills develop as they enjoy looking at books and listening to and joining in with stories, songs and rhymes. Children use a range of materials to draw and make marks. Older children learn about letters and their sounds. This helps prepare them well for school.

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

Children settle quickly due to strong relationships with parents. This enables staff to gain information about children's care and learning needs from the outset. Children have good opportunities to make choices and to lead their own learning, which builds their independence and self-assurance. Staff promote children's sense of responsibility and cooperation, for instance, as they encourage them to help tidy away the toys. They give clear guidance to children about their expectations for behaviour. Children learn to share, take turns and behave well. They learn to manage risks as they use climbing equipment and visit a forest school where they learn about nature and the world around them. Staff support children's growing understanding of safety through regular evacuation drills and safety talks when on outings.

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

Managers and staff have a good understanding of the requirements. Managers ensure staff attend safeguarding training and carry out regular risk assessments to help keep children safe. Robust recruitment and supervision of staff help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children and that training needs are regularly identified. This provides consistency and good quality practice in the nursery. Staff recently trained on a signing system. They use this to aid children's communication along with using pictures, so that all children, including those with additional educational needs, learn the routines and feel secure. Managers effectively review individual children's learning and progress to identify areas where they need further challenge or support, to help all children make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349641
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1007252
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	86
Name of provider	Little Tots Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	13 February 2015
Telephone number	0118 959 1371

Little Tots Nursery registered in 2007. It is a private nursery which follows the Montessori ethos. The nursery is situated in the west of Reading, Berkshire. It is open from 8am to 6pm each weekday, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 14 members of staff employed in the nursery, 12 of whom hold relevant qualifications. One holds Qualified Teacher Status and the rest have relevant early years qualifications to at least level 2.

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