

Little Fishes Soft - Play Skool

West Cross, Caen Street, Braunton, Devon, EX33 1AQ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

26 August 2015

9 March 2010

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

- The provider has a good understanding of her responsibility to meet the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She ensures staff have a thorough knowledge of child protection procedures to keep children safe and effectively support their well-being.
- Children are interested and curious about the world around them because staff are enthusiastic and provide appropriate resources to encourage them to investigate. Consequently, children are motivated and develop a positive attitude towards learning.
- Staff routinely ensure the security of the setting and teach children to stay safe by talking about road safety when on outings. This effectively promotes their welfare.
- Children are independent in their personal hygiene, care and play, which helps to prepare them particularly well for the move to school.
- Staff form good links with other settings that children attend, to implement consistent learning experiences that help children make good progress.
- Children behave very well. They follow staff's instructions, help to tidy up and manage minor conflicts with friends independently. For example, children know to use the sand-timer in their play to ensure they take turns fairly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always consistently use effective questioning to encourage older children to think about and share their ideas and thoughts.
- Younger children are not always able to choose from a broader range of resources, to be creative, make marks and develop hand-eye coordination and control, and their early writing skills, particularly in their self-chosen play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for older children to share their thoughts and ideas
- provide a broader range of resources to encourage younger children to make marks in different ways, to support their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's self-chosen and adult-led activities, both indoors and outside.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider.
- The inspector sampled documentation including staff suitability checks, children's learning and development records, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Sarah Madge

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 because staff have a strong understanding of how children learn and develop. Staff identify patterns in children's learning and use this information to help decide which resources to provide. For example, they supply boxes and containers for young children who enjoy placing or hiding objects inside things. Staff consider children's current stage of development when planning activities, to ensure they provide appropriate challenge and build on children's skills and knowledge. Effective partnerships with parents and external agencies enable all adults to work closely together. As a result, staff use complementary strategies to provide individual support, including for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps all children to make good progress in their learning. Staff plan small group times to look at books and read stories with children, which supports children's early reading skills. Children enjoy exploring the soft play equipment and navigating through the ball pool, which promotes their physical development well. The well-qualified staff team use their knowledge and skills well to prepare children for the next stages of their learning.

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

Children form close attachments with staff, which successfully supports their emotional well-being. As a result, children develop good social skills as they establish friendships with others. Staff deploy themselves effectively to ensure good supervision of children at all times. This supports children's confidence to take risks in their play. The low-level resources enable children to make choices about what to play with, which helps them to form preferences and build on their interests. Staff use activities well to teach children about healthy lifestyles. For instance, they encourage children to feel the difference in their heart beats before and after exercise during music and movement activities.

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

The provider regularly observes all staff to monitor the quality of their teaching. Her regular staff supervision meetings provide good support to develop their skills and understanding. For example, staff recently completed training on different ways children learn and use this knowledge to help them adapt and improve the planning for individual children. The provider and staff regularly evaluate their practice and demonstrate a strong drive to improve. For instance, staff who work with babies are reviewing the environment to increase the support they give to the youngest children. The provider has a very good understanding of the progress that individual and groups of children make over time. She uses this information well to review the quality of the provision and ensure that planning addresses any gaps in children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY240501
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	832903
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	Elizabeth Laura Trantham
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2010
Telephone number	01271 817 968

Little Fishes Soft-Play Skool registered in 2002. The nursery is privately owned and operates from its own premises in Braunton in North Devon. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 5.30pm for 50 weeks of the year. It receives nursery education funding for children aged two, three, and four years. There are currently 11 members of staff including the owner. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, with the owner/manager holding Early Years Professional Status and the manager holding a level 5 qualification.

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