

Little Learners Pre-School (Edgware)

Flash Musical Theatre, Methuen Road, Edgware, HA8 6EZ



Inspection date

17 July 2015

Previous inspection date

23 July 2014

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		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider made exceptional and far reaching improvements to the leadership, management and staffing of the nursery after the last inspection to improve outcomes for children in a short space of time.
- The leadership team provides inspirational focus on meeting the learning, development, safeguarding and welfare requirements for all children, including disabled children, who attend the nursery.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development and they are keen to try out the wide range of activities provided.
- The snack area, set up since the last inspection, provides a constant opportunity for children to learn about healthy eating and choose when to eat.
- Staff communicate with parents through daily reports, newsletters, displays and emails to make sure they are well informed about the activities, food and drink that the nursery provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Strategies are not fully in place to ensure all parents are engaged in their children's learning at home and in the setting.
- The nursery is on track with its plans but has not yet fulfilled its ambitious aims to ensure that all teaching is always exceptionally high quality.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement strategies to ensure that all parents get involved in their children's learning at home and in the setting to further enhance children's progress
- continue rigorous monitoring of teaching and learning and ensure staff keep up with programmes of professional development to further improve and maintain high quality practice

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities both indoors and outside and spoke with staff and children at suitable times throughout the visit.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, procedures and documents relating to the management of the nursery, including those for checking the suitability of staff.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took into account their written feedback to the nursery.

Inspector

Christine Davies HMI

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan activities to suit children's individual needs within a well-balanced programme. Daily routines suit the needs of full- and part-time children well. Senior staff ensure that assessments of children's progress are accurate and take account of parents' views. Children choose freely and let their imaginations grow in the vibrant environment. They become engrossed in practising drawing animals, painting, listening to sounds on simple electronic equipment and challenge themselves to pedal a course on tricycles. Teaching is good and some is exceptional. Staff support emerging literacy skills as children, including those speaking English as an additional language, make good use of cosy book areas and creative materials, indoors and outside. Staff encourage children to count as they make pretend cakes in the sand tray. Displays of children's work often help children recall what they know and build on their learning. Parents contribute regularly to their children's 'learning journals' and some take part in events in the nursery to support their children.

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

A stable staff team is in place providing an effective key person system. Staff induction has been thorough so that staff ensure the safety and security of children on a day-to-day basis. Parents value daily report slips informing them about their child's care and learning during the day. Children wait in turn and serve themselves in the snack cafe. Older children have good self-care skills as they manage their own hygiene and can find and put on their own coats and shoes. Staff talk calmly and children follow their good example. In the excitement of the children's end of term graduation morning, children moved around safely as staff gave gentle reminders of the nursery's golden rules, such as 'we use walking feet inside'. Preparations for the celebrations involved most parents. Parents' comments indicate that children are looking forward to making new friends as they move on to school.

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

The provider's vision of inclusion and striving for excellence is exceptional. An inspirational new manager has successfully overhauled the nursery's programme of learning and its resources, which are now exemplary. The provider and manager made radical changes to staffing to secure a well qualified and skilled team. Safe recruitment guidelines are followed and safeguarding is strongly highlighted in induction procedures. A finely targeted programme of supervision and professional development is in place. These changes are paying off in the strong improvement in children's achievement tracked by the nursery to close the gap, for example for disabled children. The provider monitors plans for improvement precisely and is driving relentlessly to ensure all practice becomes consistently very high quality within a short timescale. Safeguarding and welfare work is exemplary. The provider's insight into local services ensures that the right partnerships are in place to help children and their parents to access the support they need.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410008
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1014337
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Little Learners Pre-School (UK) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	23 July 2014
Telephone number	07956286572

Little Learners Pre-school was originally registered in 2005 and was re-registered at this site in 2010. Children have access to two rooms and a part-covered, enclosed outdoor area. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.30am to 3.30pm for in term-time only. The nursery has 50 children on roll in the early years age group and receives funding to provide free early years education to two-, three-, and four-year-olds. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language. The nursery is registered on the early years register and the compulsory part of the childcare Register. The nursery employs 10 staff including the provider who has Early Years Practitioner status. Of the remaining staff, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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