

Beachley Barracks (Little Scamps)



1st Battalion The Rifles, Beachley Barracks, Beachley, Chepstow, Gwent, NP16 7YG

Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

3 December 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team has a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and meets the requirements effectively. Children enjoy a good range of resources and activities that are well matched to their abilities and interests.
- Staff have positive relationships with parents; they exchange useful information about children's care and progress regularly. Children benefit from continuity in their learning at the setting and at home.
- The manager and her team actively promote equality and diversity, for example, by inviting parents to share their work experience and cultures with the children.
- The manager is ambitious; she evaluates the quality of provision effectively and has a well-informed action plan to drive improvements.
- The manager and staff have strong relationships with outside professionals and they work together effectively to meet children's needs. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to develop children's independence.
- The manager and staff have not fully embedded the improvements in their practice to extend children's curiosity and creativity wherever possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take all opportunities in daily routines to develop children's personal independence
- make full use of all opportunities throughout the nursery to extend children's curiosity and further develop their creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions of staff and children, and viewed the available resources and equipment.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Amanda Burn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager understands her responsibilities to protect children's welfare very well and has ensured that all staff have a current knowledge of safeguarding issues. Recruitment of staff is rigorous and their ongoing suitability for work with children is checked regularly. The manager ensures that staff continue to develop their high-quality teaching through effective, regular supervision and training. For example, staff attended a behaviour management course and this enabled them to promote positive behaviour even more effectively. Parent partnerships are strong; the management team actively seeks parents' views and acts on them, altering, for example, the opening hours to suit parents' needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations for the babies' and children's learning and development. They use effective observation and assessment methods to monitor children's progress from their initial starting points. They use this information to identify children's developmental needs and to plan and provide individually tailored support for each child. Staff place a good focus on developing social, communication and language skills. They speak clearly and help children to think critically. At story time, for instance, younger children listen intently and respond to simple questions; older children are helped to extend their skills through recalling and discussing the meaning in the story. The outdoor environment offers some stimulating opportunities for learning. The mud kitchen, for example, is used well to support children's learning, including their physical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide good support through the key-person system so that children are emotionally secure and settle well. Children are helped to develop high levels of self-confidence and to look after themselves through many activities, such as hand washing and dressing themselves. Just occasionally, staff do not use daily routines to full effect to encourage children's independence. For example, they sometimes pour children's drinks or mop up spills rather than encouraging children to do it for themselves. Children learn the importance of being physically fit and healthy. For example, they join in daily exercises and eat healthy foods and drink. Staff are very good role models for behaviour; they are kind and respectful and they help children think through the rules. Children are self-motivated and behave very well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well supported to be confident and happy learners at this setting. Strong links with local schools and very good preparation by the staff, such as trial physical education sessions, ensure that children are ready and well-motivated for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101857
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	835632
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Little Scamps Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2009
Telephone number	01291 645 381

Little Scamps Pre-School and Nursery registered in 2000 and is situated within the confines of the army barracks in Beachley near Chepstow in Gwent. The provision is open during term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 12 noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and 9am to 3pm on Wednesdays. There are six members of staff, five of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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