

Littleton Pre-school

The Hall Way, Littleton, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 6QL



Inspection date 9 October 2015
Previous inspection date 20 May 2011

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 quality of teaching is good. Managers and staff make effective use of their assessments about children's learning to ensure they enjoy interesting, challenging activities and make good progress.
- All children develop good communication and language skills due to effective support from staff.
- Children behave in a very positive manner and are keen to learn. Staff help children to settle quickly, gain confidence and develop good social skills.
- Children make good progress in their mathematical development. They use mathematical language naturally in their play.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are good. Children benefit from continuity in their care and learning, which helps to improve the progress they make.
- Children's welfare is high priority. All staff have up-to-date safeguarding training and a strong understanding of the procedures to follow in order to promote children's safety.
- Leaders implement effective systems for supporting staff so they understand their roles. This helps to improve the quality teaching and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have enough opportunities to strengthen their recognition of sounds and letters
- Children do not always have a wide range of textured materials to explore and use creatively or different resources to stimulate their pretend play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure staff make the most of opportunities for encouraging children's sound and letter recognition
- extend opportunities for children to explore and be creative with a wide range of media and stimulating role play resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning during indoor and outdoor play activities.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff, chair of the committee and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector looked at a selection of staff members' suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Eileen Chadwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and staff have a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and implement them successfully. Managers and the committee effectively evaluate the quality of teaching so they can make improvements, for example in the quality of learning in the outdoor play area. They support staff's professional development well through support and professional development; for example, how to provide for children aged two years old. Staff have effective systems to monitor children's achievements and use these checks to address any gaps so children make good progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate confidence in reporting concerns and allegations. Risk assessments of the premises and the surrounding environment are thorough and ensure children are safe. Effective partnerships with parents, other providers, schools and specialist services support children well when they move on to the next stage in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's learning builds successfully on what they already know and can do. Staff are enthusiastic and plan purposeful activities in order to move children's learning forward. They develop children's language skills carefully through good questioning and help children to become confident communicators with good vocabularies. During construction play, staff are effective in helping children to think, solve problems and join more complex construction parts. Staff create good opportunities for children to increase their understanding of numbers, for example, through many stimulating activities that involve number recognition and counting. Children also quickly develop a love of reading.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from good arrangements to help them settle in and the personal care of a special adult. Children respond well to daily routines and share toys. Staff encourage children to respect individual differences in society through pre-school sponsored community events, such as the recent children and families' barn dance. Children show good levels of independence as they make choices in their play and learn to put on their coats and boots for outdoor play. They benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. Growing vegetables in their garden and their fruit snacks help them to learn the importance of healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop strong literacy and numeracy skills and make good progress. Staff use effective methods and activities to support and prepare children for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511090
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	846872
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	Littleton Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2011
Telephone number	07765 916 006

Littleton Pre-school was registered in 1992. It operates from Littleton Memorial Hall near Winchester.

The pre-school opens during term time on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 12.15pm and on Wednesday from 8.30am to 3pm. The pre-school employs six members of staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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