

# Little Scarecrows

Preston Road, Manston, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 5BA



## Inspection date

8 May 2015

Previous inspection date

25 June 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff are kind and caring. They establish good relationships with children, which mean that children are emotionally secure and happy.
- Children behave well as staff act as good role models. They teach children to be kind and respect each other.
- Teaching is of good quality and meets the learning needs of all children. This results in all children making good developmental progress.
- Staff have a good understanding of possible child protection concerns. They are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe.
- Staff create a welcoming learning environment, enabling children to settle easily. This results in confident children who are motivated to learn.
- Staff build close working partnerships with parents, helping them support children's continued care and learning well.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outdoor play area does not fully support children's growing awareness of letters and words.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for children to develop early letter recognition in the outdoor area.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding procedures, staff recruitment, professional development and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including policies and children's records.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children, and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Charlotte Roberts

## Inspection findings

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

The staff offer challenging and interesting activities, promoting children's learning and development across all areas. Staff build on children's interests and all children make good progress from their starting points. This ensures they are ready for the next stage in their learning or school. Younger children enjoy filling cups with sand at the sand tray that supports their physical skills. The older children use cut straws in modelling dough to create imaginative models. Children listen well to stories and respond well to the good questions that staff ask. This promotes their language development. Staff are calm and caring, staying close to the children, which offers them reassurance when needed. Children benefit from periods of uninterrupted play. They develop good thinking skills as they experiment and explore, remaining engaged and focused in activities. The outside area offers a good variety of activities.

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

Staff support children extremely well, allowing them time to explore the environment at their own pace. This helps children to become confident in their learning and assists them in their initial settling sessions away from their main carer. Children are calm and their behaviour is very good. Staff quickly recognise and cuddle children when they are sad or feel unsure. Children have lots of opportunities to be in the fresh air. They use the garden area where children are inquisitive and enjoy exploring. They develop physical skills when mixing mud pies and using the water butt to access water.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Management and staff demonstrate a positive attitude towards continuous improvement. This builds on the strong team spirit and encourages reflection throughout their practices. For example, they recently improved how they include mathematics in the daily routines to build upon children's number skills. The management uses effective systems to review children's progress, so that staff continue to identify and close any learning gaps. Regular supervision of staff supports their professional development. Staff attend training regularly to update their skills and knowledge. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching. Staff provide detailed feedback to parents and carers at the end of their day. Parents speak highly of the nursery and comment positively on the improvements made.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	127366
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	836216
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	17
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	25
<b>Name of provider</b>	Lisa Jayne Stewart
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 June 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01843 823918

Little Scarecrows registered in 1993 and is in Manston, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5pm, for 49 weeks of the year. It provides funded free early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. There are six members of staff, five of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification to at least Level 3.

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