

# Lymington Little Dolphins Pre-School



Community Room, c/o Lymington Infants School, Avenue Road, Lymington,  
Hampshire, SO41 9GP

<b>Inspection date</b>	25 January 2016
Previous inspection date	2 March 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is excellent and all children are making exceptional progress. Staff place a very strong focus on supporting children's communication and language. They work closely with parents and plan specific activities for those children who require extra help.
- The management team is inspirational and has high expectations for the pre-school and the care of children. The experienced staff team is highly motivated and there is a strong drive for the pursuit of excellence.
- Children clearly show that they feel confident and secure in this pre-school. They thoroughly enjoy the highly positive interactions from the staff during their play.
- Children become enthralled with stories and role play, supported extremely well by the staff, and they are excited to join in with the excellent range of activities available to them.
- The staff complete very rigorous assessments of children's learning. They have built exceptional partnerships with parents, who feel they are well informed on ways to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff promote children's mathematical development extremely well and children are developing high levels of understanding through meaningful experiences.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to explore an even wider range of information and communication technology to further extend their understanding of the world.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in both the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff, students and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessments records, planning documentation, and policies and procedures, including safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Helen Harper

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The management and staff provide very high standards of care and learning to all children. They are exceptionally experienced and well qualified, and offer a tremendously rich and varied range of activities for children. Management encourages staff to continue to increase their knowledge through training and very effective monitoring. The extra knowledge and confidence enables staff to share excellent practice with others and continually enrich children's learning experiences. The management team rigorously monitors children's progress from their starting points to fully promote their ongoing development. Staff have a secure understanding of how to keep children safe and ensure their welfare. Safeguarding is effective. Self-evaluation is highly effective in practice and results in clear targets that promote continued improvements. Parents speak very highly of the pre-school and praise the excellent staff team.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Children benefit from highly effective teaching. Staff know each child very well and offer them a broad range of exciting activities, although they provide slightly fewer opportunities for them to fully explore technology. Children are eager to join in with the activities because they are interesting and meaningful to them. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring and playing. Staff enable them to lead their activities and make suggestions to further extend their learning. For example, children use their imaginations extremely well to recreate favourite stories. They excitedly use props as staff use excellent skills to extend their vocabulary and build on their knowledge. Staff make precise and accurate assessments of children's progress, and ensure they continue to be offered challenges to help them make the best possible progress. They recognise when a child is not achieving as well as they might and quickly provide them with the support they need.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Children show increasingly high levels of confidence and independence, and enjoy building on their existing excellent skills. For example, they manage to put on their coats and use spoons to help themselves to an exciting range of healthy snack options. Children enjoy an excellent range of outside activities as they become physically active and enjoy the fresh air. Children behave very well, and share and take turns. The staff are very strong and positive role models who treat all children with respect and care. An effective key-person system means that staff get to know children and their families extremely well in order to meet their needs. Partnership working with other professionals is very well established and used to support children with additional needs.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Children make excellent progress in their learning from their individual starting points. Any gaps in their learning are quickly identified and closed. Children are extremely well prepared for school and future learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	110069
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	839671
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	3 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	39
<b>Name of provider</b>	Lymington Pre School
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	2 March 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01590 673355 or 07943 039493

Lymington Little Dolphins Pre-school opened in 1992 and operates from a purpose-built community room within Lymington Infant School, in Hampshire. The pre-school is open from 8.45am to 3pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 8.45am to 11.45pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs nine staff. All the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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