

Little Owls Nursery

All Saints CE School, Fishers Mead, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9EN



Inspection date

13 May 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 provider ensures that staff monitor children's progress successfully. Staff use their observations well to plan for children's future learning. Effective ongoing assessments enable staff to identify any gaps in individual learning, and to plan effectively to ensure these close quickly.
- Children are happy and well behaved, with good self-esteem. They show through their good relationships with staff that they feel emotionally safe and secure. Children learn well about diversity and they respect and value each other's differences.
- Children who have special educational needs or disability receive extremely good support. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to plan a consistent and shared approach to helping all children achieve well.
- The provider works effectively with staff to promote good quality outcomes for children. Effective systems of self-evaluation lead to well-focused action plans for improvement. Children's and parents' views are valued and included in this process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always promote children's independence and practical skills consistently well at mealtimes.
- There are not enough opportunities for children, especially those who learn better outdoors, to engage in imaginary and role play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use mealtimes more effectively to encourage children's independence and practical skills further
- support children more, especially those who prefer to learn outdoors, to play imaginatively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children engaged in learning activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with the provider, staff, children and parents, and viewed parents' feedback.
- The inspector sampled records used to promote children's welfare, including safeguarding procedures, and checked staff's knowledge of how to implement these.
- The inspector reviewed systems to promote children's learning, and for monitoring their progress.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider and management team focus well on staff development to improve the quality of teaching. They use regular team meetings effectively to share skills and knowledge gained from training, and to identify future priorities for improvement, for example, to provide staff training in sign language to further support children to communicate. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a very good understanding of how to safeguard children, and all attend training. They have a thorough knowledge of safeguarding procedures and use these very well to help protect children from harm. The management team organises staff well to meet the children's needs and keeps an accurate record of children and adults on the premises.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a good variety of interesting activities that challenge individual children well. For example, they provide a wide range of activities that encourage children to use and explore different types of technology. Children programmed robots to move in different directions and enjoyed using computer tablets to simulate playing drums and guitars. Staff use their very good communication skills to extend children's learning well. For example, when children checked the tadpoles, staff encouraged discussions about the life cycle of a frog and how to identify changes. Staff make very good use of children's interests to encourage them to extend their communication. This leads to interesting conversations based on children's love of pets, and how they need to be fed and cared for, which further develops children's understanding of the natural world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are keen to learn new skills, and they enthusiastically demonstrate these to others. For example, they show how to wiggle to make hula hoops spin, and show younger children how to use equipment outdoors. Children have a good understanding of a healthy diet. For example, while pretending to make cakes, they checked with staff whether they needed to add sugar, and if so, how much, and what could be substituted. Children worked together well as they moved three-dimensional objects to make their own unique obstacle course. They helped each other to climb and balance, making their own risk assessments of how to conduct themselves safely.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make consistently good progress relative to their starting points. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school. Younger children explore and investigate well, showing developing curiosity and interest in learning. Older children communicate confidently and learn to work with others to extend their ideas. Children of all ages show good independence skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY487444
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1050440
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	All Saints C Of E School
Registered person unique reference number	RP534457
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01398 324360

Little Owls Nursery registered under its current management of All Saint's School in Dulverton, Somerset, in 2015. The nursery is open from 8.30am to 5.30pm on Monday to Thursday, and from 8.30am to 3.30pm on Friday, all year round. The nursery provides free funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 10 members of staff working with the children. The manager has qualified teacher status, the deputy has a level 4 qualification, five members of staff are qualified to level 3, and one has a level 2 qualification. One member of staff is unqualified and working towards a level 3 early years qualification. The administrator also provides additional support.

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