

Little Legs Junior Limited

Silver Street, Wethersfield, Braintree, CM7 4BP



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

24 August 2016

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 manager inspires and motivates staff to ensure that all children have the highest-quality care and play experiences.
- Children show high levels of engagement and enthusiasm in their learning. Staff know individual children well and use information from observations and assessments to plan how best to support their learning. All children make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- Children develop good independence and practical life skills. They manage tasks and self-care routines very well in preparation for school.
- Children are happy, settled and confident. They are learning to share and take turns, play with others and are making firm friendships.
- The management team has a strong commitment to improving the qualifications and knowledge of its workforce. It encourages and enables staff to access a range of training opportunities and delegate additional responsibilities.
- The manager and staff place a high priority on helping children to prepare for moving on to school. They ensure that children enjoy a rich variety of activities to support all areas of learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Self-evaluation does not yet show precise targets for further development or systematically assess the impact that current priorities for improvement are having on children's outcomes.
- Staff are not always successful in helping children to develop an understanding of people and communities beyond their immediate experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen self-evaluation procedures further to identify more precise areas for development and assess the impact that improvements have on children's outcomes
- enhance planning, in order to provide further opportunities for children to learn about differences and similarities in people and communities beyond their immediate experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the proprietor of the nursery. She looked at and discussed relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is a good role model and monitors children's progress closely. For example, regular meetings give staff the opportunity to discuss individual children's progress and identify any gaps in their learning. Information held about groups of children is used effectively by staff to plan and enhance outcomes for them. For example, staff identified the need to provide further opportunities for those children who prefer to learn outdoors. They have built a mud kitchen for children to explore natural materials. In addition, there is now a den for children to be quiet, sit, read or make marks on the large chalkboard. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of what to do to keep children safe. They have a strong understanding of how to refer child protection concerns and they regularly identify and address potential risks in the environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan effectively and provide a wide range of activities inside and outside, supporting children's learning across all areas of the curriculum. For example, children become deeply involved in preparing meals in the mud kitchen outside, helping to develop good imaginations. They make estimations and compare shapes and measures, developing good mathematical skills. Children enjoy making marks on the pavement with water and guessing how long it will take for these to evaporate in the sun. Staff provide regular opportunities for children to explore and experiment freely with a variety of materials as part of their creative development. They work hard to involve parents in their children's learning and development. Effective partnerships with external agencies help staff effectively address the individual care of children who need extra support.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and have good manners. Staff remind them if their behaviour or actions are not acceptable and give them explanations. Children make good friendships and feel valued. They show caring and respectful attitudes to each other. Staff are attentive and nurturing, helping children gain confidence. Babies settle into the nursery quickly and form strong attachments to their key person and other staff. Good arrangements are in place for managing children's transition to school and when attending more than one setting, promoting their welfare and learning. Staff liaise effectively with parents to ensure established routines are adhered to, helping babies feel secure. Good opportunities are provided for children to play outdoors in the fresh air and be physically active. Children benefit from healthy snacks and nutritious food.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are gaining a wide range of skills and knowledge in preparation for school. Children's speaking and listening skills are good and consistent routines support their learning well. For example, they have time everyday where they listen to stories and sing songs, including mathematical language and rhymes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480859
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	987226
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Little Legs Junior Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534484
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01371851234

Little Legs Junior Limited was registered in 2014. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week during December. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. There are five members of staff, four of whom have appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and 3. The manager holds a qualification at level 4. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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