

Little Kites Playgroup

Cotgrave Candleby Lane School, Candleby Lane, Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire, NG12 3JG



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

14 September 2016

6 December 2013

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

- Staff have a secure knowledge of how young children learn and develop. They plan interesting and challenging activities. Children's interests are used very well to attract their attention to an activity and to help them to remain interested.
- The playgroup is managed by a well-organised committee. Staff are supported very well to do their job. They have good opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge through a wide range of training and development activities.
- Children are confident, independent learners. They behave well and understand and follow the routines of the playgroup day. They are developing skills and attitudes to support them well in their future education.
- Children have secure and trusting relationships with staff. Children invite staff to join in their play. When they need support or comfort they seek out a familiar adult and receive warm responses to their needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's progress is monitored by a staff member with lead responsibility. However, the leadership team's knowledge of tracking is too limited to ensure they are confident that targeted improvements are having the desired impact.
- The Ofsted registration process for new committee members is not being checked and followed up frequently enough.
- The leadership team recognise that systems for monitoring the effectiveness of record keeping and teaching do not always identify weaknesses swiftly enough.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- track the progress of committee members' background checks to make sure that the registration process with Ofsted is being completed as quickly as possible
- improve how staff practice is monitored so that any weaknesses in teaching or record keeping are identified swiftly
- improve the leadership team's knowledge of how children's progress is tracked so that they have secure oversight and can monitor the effectiveness of improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed activities in the playroom and the outdoor play area.
- The inspectors spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager and the committee chairperson.
- The inspectors took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and of written comments left by parents for the inspectors.
- The inspectors looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspectors

Joanne Smith HMI/ Sian Extence EYRI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders, managers and staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to protect the welfare of children. They know the signs that might indicate there is a concern about a child or the behaviour of a colleague towards children, and the procedures they must follow if circumstances demand action. The leadership team work well with child protection agencies when there is a need and follow advice and guidance closely to safeguard the children and family. The leadership team have an accurate understanding of what they do well at the playgroup and what they could improve on. Staff use what they learn through training and development opportunities well to adapt and enhance their teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe and accurately assess children's learning and development regularly. They make good use of the information they have about what children know, understand and can do to identify relevant next steps for children's learning. Parents are well-informed about their child's development by their child's key person and through accessing their child's online learning journey. The playgroup also uses creative ways to involve parents in children's learning by providing activities to share at home, such as a sequencing game based on the 'Goldilocks and the three bears' story, with a sachet of porridge for children to make with parents. Staff take notice of what children enjoy. With the children they created a walkway through the shrubs in the garden and use this to encourage children to explore and be inquisitive by hiding different items for them to discover.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff take good care of the children during the playgroup sessions. In warm weather, for example, they make sure children wear a hat and suncream and have plenty to drink. Care and support extends to children's wider family, which supports secure relationships between parents and the playgroup. Children enjoy the activities and experiences on offer to them and become engrossed in play, with adults and with other children. When children forget what is expected of their behaviour they are reminded by staff who do not ignore what is happening.

Outcomes for children are good

Children climb on ladders and into cubes, and balance well on two-wheeled bikes. They squeeze, roll and pinch playdough with their hands building strength and control in their fingers. These developing physical abilities prepare children well to improve skills such as, controlling a pencil to write or to work out if tools will fit in a box. Older children write recognisable letters and some write their own name, while younger children make marks representing the patterns they see in writing. Children count confidently to 10, some independently and some with support. For example, when children were cooking their mud cakes in their imaginary microwave a staff member counted 10 seconds with younger children and used her fingers to give some context to the counting and help children's developing understanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366149
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1051927
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Little Kites Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP527514
Date of previous inspection	6 December 2013
Telephone number	0115 989 1917

Little Kites Pre-School Playgroup was registered in 2007. It is situated in a self-contained unit within Cotgrave Candleby Lane School and is managed by a committee. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during school term times from 9am until 3.15pm. Session times are: 9am until 11.30am, 12.45pm until 3.15pm with lunch club from 11.30am until 12.45pm. The pre-school provides free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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