

Little Owls Nursery

Dark Lane, Broseley, Shropshire, TF12 5LW



Inspection date	17 October 2016
Previous inspection date	9 August 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

- All persons, including the committee, staff, parents and children, share their views of the nursery through the self-evaluation process. The management committee and the manager use this information to identify areas for further improvement that will benefit all children on an ongoing basis.
- Staff gain important information from parents about what their child knows and can do. This helps them to identify strong starting points and to plan for children's learning in line with their current interests and learning styles. As a result, outcomes for children are good.
- Staff develop effective partnerships with other providers and the local schools. This helps staff to make sure that they can complement children's care and learning within the nursery. As a result, this fosters good levels of consistency and continuity for all children.
- Staff successfully help children to settle in when they first start. They provide the important resource of time and demonstrate high levels of kindness and warmth. This helps to foster children's strong emotional attachments and helps them begin to develop confidence in building new friendships with other children. This also helps children to develop their good behaviour.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make sure that the environment is continually supportive of children's listening and understanding skills.
- Staff are not always successful in making sure that all parents are fully informed about plans for their child's future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- manage the environment more effectively so background noise does not have a negative impact on children's ability to hear and understand all communications
- strengthen the arrangements for making sure that all parents are well informed about the plans for their children's future learning.

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 registered person and the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management and staff have a good understanding of the prevention or early identification of abuse and neglect. All staff check the indoor and outdoor areas to make sure that any hazards are identified and minimised. This helps to keep children safe and well. The manager provides regular one-to-one meetings with all staff, which provides confidential times to discuss anything that may be of concern to them. She provides coaching for all staff in each of the base rooms to build on teaching skills. The manager and staff are committed to enhancing their own professional development. They attend regular training and meet with other nursery staff in the local area to share good practice. Staff regularly assess children's ongoing progress in their learning and development. Outcomes for children are good and they are progressing well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide exciting activities that support children's interest in the natural world. Older children laugh and giggle as they climb up the slide and roll down the muddy banks during their Forest School play sessions. They learn about the changing seasons, talk about the wildlife they see and collect twigs and leaves for their creative sessions. Toddlers also enjoy their time in the forest areas. They become excited as they explore and investigate, looking for mini-beasts on the ground and on trees. They listen to stories and sing songs as they sit under the willow branches. Staff support babies to find out about the world during outdoor play. Babies become excited as they clamber through the grass in all weathers in their wet weather suits. They look on in awe as staff blow bubbles for them that disappear into the sky. Indoors, babies investigate using their senses, as they freely explore the treasure baskets around them. During activities, all staff engage well with the children they care for. They foster children's 'can do' attitude to their learning and thereby their readiness for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make sure that children are provided with healthy, well-balanced meals and snacks. All children are able to move between the indoor and outdoor areas throughout the day as they wish. They take manageable risks in their play as they use a range of equipment under the supervision of the staff. They help children to learn about a healthy diet and lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make independent choices and follow their interests as they lead their own learning. All children develop a love of books as they sit in the comfy areas with their friends. They use their imagination as they paint pictures, build three-dimensional models and become engrossed in role play. All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress in their learning and development. This fosters their readiness for the next phase in their learning, including the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224208
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1063762
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	0 - 10
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	68
Name of registered person	Little Owls Nursery Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518235
Date of previous inspection	9 August 2013
Telephone number	01952 882232

Little Owls Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5, one holds level 4 and all others hold level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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