

Little Learners Nursery and Preschool (Ilford)

2 Axon Place, Centreway, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1NL



Inspection date	9 November 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

- Babies and children form strong attachments to staff. Effective settling-in procedures help them to feel confident and safe. Children have opportunities to explore different parts of the nursery and they move easily between rooms as they grow older.
- Staff skilfully observe the children and quickly identify any changes in behaviour or gaps in their learning. They work in close partnership with parents and other professionals to ensure that all children receive the support they need.
- Managers carefully monitor staff practice and ensure staff understand and follow the nursery's procedures to keep children safe. Regular supervision of staff ensures that managers are aware of staff's strengths and areas for development.
- Staff generally support children's learning effectively. They are well qualified and have access to good-quality training that helps them to provide activities that support children's development, particularly in areas relating to imagination and creativity.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not provide a high level of challenge in some activities, to encourage children's participation at all times.
- Staff do not consider fully some children's preferences and choices for outdoor learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a greater degree of challenge in children's activities to maintain their interest and capture their enthusiasm for learning
- increase opportunities for children to explore the outdoor environment, and offer more freedom of choice in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection and by reading parent questionnaires.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as self-evaluation, suitability checks and qualifications of staff, children's progress records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers understand their responsibility to notify Ofsted of any changes. Procedures for reporting any concerns about child protection are made clear to all staff, for instance, these are clearly displayed in all areas of the nursery. Managers ensure staff receive up-to-date training and they regularly check staff's knowledge. Managers and staff regularly discuss and review children's progress to ensure they effectively meet individual needs. The manager implements effective recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children and well qualified. Managers take account of the views of staff, parents and other professionals when making plans for the development of the nursery. They use the self-evaluation process effectively to reflect on the provision and make continuous improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children make good progress in their learning and teaching is generally strong. Staff work closely with parents to identify children's learning needs on entry to the nursery. Staff observe and carefully assess children's progress and plan for the next stages in their learning. Staff support children's growing communication and language skills well. Children thoroughly enjoy imaginative play and creative activities. For example, children are keen to write letters in a make-believe post office. Staff extend their learning by providing a cardboard posting box to paint. Children chatter happily, such as about Christmas, as they paint letters on the box and stick on cotton balls to represent snow. Babies enjoy making handprints, for example, to add to a Remembrance Day display.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop their social skills as they learn to share and take turns with the toys. Staff teach children to be kind to each other and respect other people. Children learn about each other's differences and cultures, and enjoy dressing up for events and festivals. Children behave well. Staff set consistent boundaries for children's behaviour and this helps children to feel secure. Children learn to become independent. For example, they learn to manage their own personal care, wash their hands and help to tidy away the toys. Babies learn to feed themselves well. Children enjoy freshly cooked food and know which foods are good for their health. Staff are kind and caring. They help to steady babies who are taking their first steps. Older children exercise their limbs, for example, they dance and perform actions to rhymes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress for starting school. For example, they learn to recognise numbers, shapes and colours. They learn about the alphabet, including how to write their names. Babies and children develop a love of books and choose books for staff to read.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488591
Local authority	Redbridge
Inspection number	1077229
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 - 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Lifeline Enterprises Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908984
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02084786999

Little Learners Nursery and Preschool (Ilford) registered in 2015. The nursery operates Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 11 childcare staff, of whom 9 hold early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds a relevant qualification at level 4. The provider also employs two cooks and a receptionist. The provider is in receipt of funding to offer free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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