

# Little Rascals

St Nicholas Centre, 30 Wareham Road, Corfe Mullen, Dorset, BH21 3LE



<b>Inspection date</b>	10 January 2017
Previous inspection date	5 April 2016

	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 new director has worked extremely hard with her small team of staff to monitor and develop practice to raise the quality of teaching and learning since the last inspection. She has a clear vision for the future of the nursery.
- The quality of the teaching and learning in the under two's room is particularly strong. Many staff are enthusiastic and plan exciting, enjoyable activities for children, which fully engage them and successfully build on what each child knows and can do.
- The staff team shows a secure understanding of observation, assessment and planning for children's needs. Information is used well to track progress and identify gaps in individual children's learning and the attainment of different groups of children. Children make good progress.
- Partnership with parents is strong, with lots of focus on involving parents in nursery life and children's learning. Parents praise the setting highly. They particularly like the intimate atmosphere, the friendly communicative staff, and the nursery productions such as the nativity play.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff in the pre-school room are not highly successful in helping older children to solve simple number problems and to recognise numbers.
- The new director is in the process of developing the pre-school learning environment. Not all areas are rich and varied to help children make the best possible progress in their development.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of all opportunities to help older children develop their number recognition and problem-solving skills further
- explore more ways to enrich the learning environment to help children make greater progress.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities, indoors and outdoors, and looked at the available resources.
- The inspector held a meeting with the director/manager about the effectiveness of leadership and management, including self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the director/manager.

### Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The new director and staff are fully trained to understand their child protection procedures. They know the action to take if they are worried about a child, including those with extreme views. The staff are clear about the processes to follow if a child has an accident, which includes completing accurate records. The new director is proactive in raising the quality of teaching, for example, she coaches staff and meets with each one regularly. Staff training and development have been given high priority since the last inspection. For example, all staff have adopted a new behaviour management system which works successfully. The nursery works well with agencies to support those children below the expected levels of development.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding about how children learn through play, exploration and purposeful teaching activities. They provide strong interactive support to children alongside the many play opportunities on offer. Children enjoy investigating, experimenting and having a go. For example, toddlers filled up pots with soil and talked excitedly as they put in cut flowers. Older children listened well, made marks on chalk boards, started to write recognisable letters and eagerly recognised their own name. The staff working with babies extend their learning very well, such as when they demonstrate play and comment on the small world play with trains. They are particularly skilled at supporting young children's emerging communication skills.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop strong relationships and social confidence with friends and staff, for example, through the frequent support from their key person. Children behave well. Staff remind them about how to stay safe, to respect other people and the equipment. For example, the set of 'golden gang' soft toys are used very well by staff to help children understand the rules. Staff praise children regularly, helping to boost their self-esteem and confidence. Children enjoy physical challenges outdoors, gaining good coordination and exercise. Staff offer children healthy snacks and ask challenging questions about healthy foods and why it is important to clean your teeth.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a thirst for learning and are motivated to try new things. For example, they eagerly explore scented play dough to develop their senses and find out what they can do. One-year-old children imitate what staff say, and they name clearly the new words they are learning. Older children talk with ease to others as they work together in the role-play hospital. They listen with interest to stories and contribute to conversations. Children leave with a good range of skills which help them become ready for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY396254
<b>Local authority</b>	Dorset
<b>Inspection number</b>	1048008
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	43
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Rascals Baby Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP901120
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 April 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	01202658385

Little Rascals registered in 2009. It is located in Corfe Mullen, Dorset. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, apart from bank holidays and one week during the Christmas period. There are six staff, including the director/manager, who work directly with the children. Four staff hold a relevant qualification at level 3, and two hold qualifications at level 2.

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