

Littlegates for Little People

Littlegate Farm, Clensey Lane, Dry Doddington, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG23 5HT



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

10 April 2017

19 February 2015

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 support children's emotional well-being effectively. This is particularly evident in the attachments babies and young children form with familiar staff members.
- Staff observe children and interact with them as they play. These skilful interactions extend and challenge children's learning. All children make good progress and thrive within this welcoming and warm environment.
- The manager is passionate about improving the service the team offers to all of the families and children who use the nursery. She seeks the views of parents, children, staff and others to identify strengths and areas for improvement.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models for children. They use positive language and give gentle reminders about expectations for their behaviour. Consequently, the atmosphere in the nursery is calm and conducive to learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently obtain enough information from parents about children's developmental starting points to help to plan their learning fully from the outset.
- Although staff have effective links with the local school, they have not established highly successful partnerships with all the other early years settings that children attend to fully promote consistency in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more detailed information from parents to help identify children's developmental starting points and use this information to more accurately plan activities and experiences from the outset
- build on the partnerships with other early years settings that children also attend, to promote greater continuity in children's learning and development between settings.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the effectiveness of this on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good knowledge about how to support children's welfare and what to do if they are concerned about a child. The manager implements robust recruitment, induction and vetting procedures to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. She supports staff well and encourages them to undertake further training to update their skills and knowledge. The manager and staff track the progress of individual and groups of children well, to swiftly close any gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities well. Targeted programmes of support are swiftly implemented and there is good information sharing between all involved. Babies engage in stimulating activities which encourage them to explore their environment. For example, they have fun as they explore different materials. Staff encourage children to count and use simple calculation as they pretend to make spaghetti soup in the garden. They plan exciting opportunities for children. For example, children eagerly take part in digging and planting activities. Children search for bugs outdoors and delight in looking closely at them through magnifying glasses. They recognise and name the bugs they find. Children develop good skills at communicating. Staff spend time encouraging conversation and the younger children develop their language skills as staff talk to them while they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff teach children about understanding healthy lifestyles well. For example, children enjoy a well balanced and nutritious selection of snacks, meals and drinks and enjoy lots of opportunities for fresh air and exercise in the garden. The environment is well organised and allows children to make choices about what they would like to play with. Staff undertake effective risk assessments to keep children safe and free from harm at all times. Parents speak positively about the nursery. They say that they receive regular updates about their children's care, welfare and development.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are curious and eager to explore, both indoors and outdoors. They are sociable, confident and independent. Children demonstrate high levels of physical skills. For example, they use apparatus confidently to climb, balance and manoeuvre around obstacles. Children learn to recognise the sound of letters and enjoy sharing their favourite books. All children develop the skills they need for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253665
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1090354
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 - 8
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Gavin Naismith & Elizabeth Naismith Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP521873
Date of previous inspection	19 February 2015
Telephone number	01636 626067

Littlegates for Little People registered in 1994. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 4, seven at level 3 and two at level 2. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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