

Little Toads Preschool

54 South Drive, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 7PZ



Inspection date	17 May 2017	
Previous inspection date	18 June 2015	
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good
	Previous inspection:	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

- Children's well-being is given a high priority. Staff are very attentive to children's needs. They know each child very well and take positive steps to help new children feel settled and secure. For example, new children and their parents are invited to 'stay and play' sessions before they start.
- All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They are well behaved and are helped to be kind and caring towards their friends.
- Partnerships with parents and external professionals, including other providers, are strong. Information about children's care and learning is shared effectively. This contributes to ensuring that there is a continuous approach to meeting children's individual needs.
- The manager and staff make good use of their qualifications to support children's learning well. They review their practice and complete purposeful audits to guide areas that they wish to improve. Parents' and children's views are valued and used in the process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best of opportunities that arise to consistently encourage children to explore their own thoughts and ideas.
- At times, the group sizes of children, such as during story sessions, are particularly large. Some children become slightly distracted and find it hard to concentrate.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review teaching strategies to help children more consistently to extend their own thoughts and ideas
- consider group sizes when planning activities to make it easier for all abilities and ages to engage and benefit fully from purposeful learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the provider, the staff team and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and held a meeting with her.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's records and planning documentation. She also looked at evidence of the suitability of staff working with the children.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Maura Pigram

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff regularly discuss child protection issues and ensure that they are aware of current legislation. They have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about children's welfare. Risk assessments are used effectively to identify and minimise potential hazards. Recruitment procedures are thorough. Inductions and ongoing discussions help to ensure that staff continue to be suitable for their roles. The manager supports staff in developing their knowledge and skills. They attend regular training and gain new teaching strategies from network meetings and conferences. Staff make effective use of observations and ongoing assessments of children's achievements to plan for future learning. Parents are highly complimentary about the setting. They say that their children love coming and that the staff help them to be ready for school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are provided with a wide range of activities. Staff promote children's understanding of the natural world. For example, they visit the beach where they enjoy digging in the sand and discovering what happens when water is added. Children have fun making items which link to a popular story. For example, they learn how to paint and cut paper to represent large stalks and display these in a play room. Children's language skills are well supported and newly implemented ideas contribute to this. Staff allow children to make their own decisions during their play and follow their lead. For example, children become excited when they discover how to create large and small circles with their torch lights in the 'dark room'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form close relationships with staff. The key-person system is effective and children's ongoing, changing needs are discussed with parents. Children follow good hygiene routines and dietary needs are well known. They grow vegetables and herbs which are picked and used for mealtimes, helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. Children's physical skills are well supported. Staff make good use of the outdoor covered areas so that children can continue to explore in all weather conditions. Children's safety is promoted at all times, such as during walks to visit the beach and to see construction work nearby.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. This includes children who receive funded education. Children recognise numbers and letters, and many can write their own names. They help themselves to books to support their early interest in reading. They are well prepared for their next stage in learning or moving on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278243
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1091876
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Christina Anita Riseborough
Registered person unique reference number	RP512480
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2015
Telephone number	07765030014

Little Toads Preschool registered in 2004. It operates from a property in Felpham, West Sussex. The provider employs five members of staff. The manager holds early years professional status and the deputy holds early years teacher status. Of the remaining staff, one holds a qualification at level 6 and two hold qualifications at level 3. The nursery is open Monday to Friday during term time, from 8am to 3pm continuously, and receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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