

The Little Kingdom Nursery and Preschool

Baptist Church, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL53 8AP



Inspection date

5 July 2017

Previous inspection date

25 November 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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 owner manages her setting well. She has made significant improvements and all actions and recommendations from the last inspection are met. For example, she now supports staff effectively to improve their skills to improve outcomes for the children.
- Staff form secure and warm relationships with babies and children, and this supports their emotional needs well. Children are happy, display good levels of confidence and are keen to explore the generally stimulating environment.
- Overall, children make good progress from their starting points. Staff have a good understanding of how young children learn. They observe children regularly to identify their interests and achievements, and plan for their next stages in learning.
- Effective partnerships with parents and other professionals support staff well to meet children's individual needs. They work well together consistently, sharing relevant information about children's development and care.
- Staff provide very positive role models for children. Children behave well and have strong relationships. For instance, they respect, listen and respond well to each other.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not make the most of available space and resources to help increase opportunities for younger children's learning even further.
- At times, staff working with mixed ages of children do not make the best use of their interactions, to challenge and extend all children's thinking skills to higher levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek to make the most of available space and resources to increase opportunities for younger children's learning even further
- build on ways to support and challenge all ages of children to think through their ideas when they are engaged in activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with the children in play activities indoors and outdoors, and looked at the available resources.
- The inspector had discussions with the owner about leadership and management, safeguarding, and of how they evaluate practice.
- The inspector had discussions with parents and took account of their views, along with written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at children's information, attendance records and development records, and talked to staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff are well qualified. They undertake a range of training courses to extend their knowledge and develop practice. For example, targeted training on supporting children's mathematical skills has helped staff acquire new skills to improve outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of the local procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager carefully manages and tracks children progress. Any gaps in children's learning are identified and further support is arranged. The manager involves staff and parents in reflecting on the service provided. For example, parents are asked for their views on a regular basis, such as at nursery coffee mornings. Parents comment that they are kept well informed about their children's learning and any changes there may be at the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are motivated and eager to learn. Staff plan good activities based on children's interests and individual needs. They encourage their creativity and imaginative skills well. For example, children have fun looking for snails in the garden and then design and decorate a model snail at the creative table. Staff are skilful in supporting children as they play and learn. For example, they listen carefully, challenge children effectively and value their ideas. During circle-time activities, children confidently join in with action songs and decide which familiar songs they want to sing next. Children develop their mathematical skills well. For example, they count bubbles and recognise shapes they cut.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff place high importance on their role as key person to support children and their families. For example, home visits can be arranged and settling-in procedures help to develop positive and caring relationships. Children are happy in this secure and nurturing environment. Children develop their understanding of equality and diversity through a wide range of resources, activities and displays. Staff encourage children to develop their independence skills well. For example, when they are able to, children manage their own care routines, such as handwashing and blowing their own noses. Staff support children's physical skills well. For instance, children use scissors safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children are prepared well for their move on to school, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children are independent at meeting their own needs, for example, dressing and undressing. Children gain good mathematical awareness, for instance, as they enjoy counting out plates and using number cards. They enjoy problem solving, for example, deciding how to share a plate of fruit fairly.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449695
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1079753
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Laura Jane Pearson
Registered person unique reference number	RP516332
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2016
Telephone number	07971314014

The Little Kingdom Nursery and Preschool registered in 2012. It is located at a Baptist church in Charlton Kings, in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The nursery and pre-school operate each weekday all year round, except for bank holidays. Opening hours are from 8am to 6pm, as required. The provider receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are nine staff, including the owner, working directly with the children. Of these, four hold a relevant early years qualification between level 3 and level 4. The manager holds early years teacher status.

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