

# Littlesteps Preschool

Littleover Methodist Church, Constable Drive, Littleover, Derby, DE23 6EP



## Inspection date

17 July 2017

Previous inspection date

4 April 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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

- The managers are passionate about providing a high-quality provision for children. They identify areas to improve successfully through regular evaluation. They have addressed the recommendations from the previous inspection. For example, staff provide children with a wide range of opportunities to develop their outdoor learning.
- Children are very happy and well settled. Staff know children well and successfully meet their individual needs. Children respond well to the staff's caring and kind nature and build affectionate bonds with them.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Staff encourage parents to be involved in their children's development. For example, they discuss children's progress together and invite parents to share information about learning at home.
- All children, including those who have English as an additional language are progressing well. Staff accurately assess children's learning and identify the next steps in their development. They then plan exciting activities to help support their learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not consistently build on opportunities that arise during spontaneous play to help extend older and most-able children's learning, in order to help them 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:

- provide the older and most-able children with extra challenge, to help extend their learning and progress even further.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the pre-school and looked at the toys the children use. She observed the interactions between the staff and children during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the staff and spoke to the children at appropriate times during the inspection. She carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with one of the managers.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed with the key persons the children's development and the progress they were making in their learning.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff. She also discussed the self-evaluation process, training opportunities and safeguarding procedures.

### Inspector

Janice Hughes

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of current safeguarding issues. They understand the signs that may indicate a child is at harm and who to contact if they have a concern about a child in their care. Recruitment procedures are robust and help to ensure the suitability of staff. The managers carry out detailed induction procedures, followed by comprehensive staff supervisory meetings and appraisals. These help the managers to identify any training needs and support for staff. The educational programmes are monitored effectively. From their monitoring and tracking of children's development the managers identified a need to improve the programme for mathematics. Staff attended training and now this area is taught well. Staff work closely with other settings children attend, sharing information frequently to help continuity of learning.

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

Staff understand that children learn through play. Overall, they interact in positive ways which motivate and inspire the children to learn. Staff support children's communication and language development effectively. There are many opportunities for children to develop their small-muscular skills. For example, they use stencils, paint brushes and play dough tools skilfully, to help them create and make caterpillars. Children learn about nature very well. For example, they learn about snails. Children are excited to watch the snail as it eats the cucumber. Staff talk to the children about the snail, which evolves into children drawing pictures of snails and looking at books to find out more facts about where snails live and what they eat.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and move around the pre-school freely, choosing their own play. They are independent and developing skills to help them care for their own needs. Staff are good role models and help children to be kind, sociable and thoughtful. Children behave well, they share, take turns and are beginning to respect other children's views and opinions. Staff place a high priority on children's awareness of leading healthy lifestyles. They encourage children to eat healthy options, promote good hygiene procedures and provide the children with opportunities to develop their large muscles. For example, children ride on sit-and-ride toys, balance on crates and chase balls as they roll down the slope. Staff promote children's safety well.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a wide range of skills to help support them in their future learning and the move on to school. They participate enthusiastically in activities and maintain good levels of concentration during play and group activities, such as singing time. They are secure in their communication and language, physical, personal, social and emotional skills.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY385725
<b>Local authority</b>	Derby, City of
<b>Inspection number</b>	1088070
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	3 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	28
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Littlesteps Preschool Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910029
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	07963314745

Littlesteps Preschool registered in 2008. The pre-school opens Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9am until 12 midday, Tuesday 9am until 3pm and Wednesday 9am until 1pm, term time only. Children have the opportunity to stay for lunch on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-old children and supports children who have English as an additional language. There are 10 members of staff working directly with the children. Of these, nine staff hold a child care qualification at level 2 or 3. One of the managers is a qualified teacher and holds early years professional status.

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