

Little Vikings Nursery

Little Vikings Childrens Centre, Liddymore Road, Watchet, TA23 0EX



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

21 September 2017

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Caring and knowledgeable staff use their training effectively to support young children's emotional well-being. They provide a calm and settled learning environment and children develop strong bonds with all staff, particularly their key person.
- Staff use information gained from their observations and assessments effectively to help young children make good progress from their starting points. They provide a wealth of well-matched learning opportunities which supports children's interests and next steps.
- Children are confident to explore because they feel safe and secure. Staff gather essential information from parents which they use to help children settle quickly. Staff meet children's care needs efficiently, showing great respect and individual attention.
- The management team gathers the views of staff and parents to evaluate the provision well. There are clear action plans for improvement, for example, to develop further the systems for gaining information from parents about children's learning at home, to influence their planning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although, the management team has identified areas to improve the quality of teaching, systems to raise standards even further are in their infancy at present.
- On occasion, staff miss opportunities to help the youngest children make choices and be fully involved in whole-group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the systems to continue to raise the quality of teaching among all staff even further
- support babies and young children further to make decisions and be fully involved in group times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children as they played inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager and discussed staff professional development.
- The inspector sampled documentation and discussed these with the management team, including children's assessment records, staff suitability checks and the nursery's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers use effective arrangements to ensure ongoing staff suitability and induction into the nursery. Managers and staff have a good understanding of their responsibility to report concerns about a child or a colleague to appropriate agencies. They work closely with professionals and agencies to support children's ongoing welfare. The manager and staff frequently evaluate the play space and analyse data to make improvements. For example, they have developed further the role-play area to improve opportunities for children to use language. Managers track individual and specific groups of children's progress efficiently and take prompt action to reduce any gaps in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children learn good communication and language skills from an early age. For example, staff are patient, respond to young children's babbles and provide clear commentaries on their actions to build vocabulary effectively. Children show great interest in the world around them, for example, pointing, verbalising and copying actions as they observe ground maintenance. Children enjoy numerous opportunities to be outside and active. They develop good physical skills, for example, showing confidence in climbing the steps of the slide. Children show great excitement when they develop new skills, such as how to propel themselves and rotate on a ride-on toy that spins and bounces.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy being at the nursery. Staff are positive role models and help young children build friendships and play together. They frequently encourage and praise children's attempts. Staff show children great respect. For example, when changing nappies, staff always ask children's permission before removing clothing and talk to them constantly throughout the process. Staff know their children well and are quick to identify when babies are unwell. They follow effective procedures to ensure children's well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills for their next steps in learning, especially as they transfer to the toddler room. Children have a good sense of exploration and enjoy opportunities to investigate. For example, they use their hands and a selection of tools confidently to explore the 'gloop'. Staff give babies and young children ample time to discover independently and engage with them well as they gain the confidence to try new experiences. Children copy modelled language and use it in their play. They show fascination with how things work, for example, following the fish in the sensory bubble tube.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488355
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1013294
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 - 2
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Knights Templar C Of E & Methodist First School
Registered person unique reference number	RP534526
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01984 634385

Little Vikings Nursery registered in 2006 and re-registered in 2015 when governance was taken over by Knights Templar Church of England and Methodist First School. The setting operates from a purpose-built building in the grounds of the school in Watchet, Somerset. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 5pm, for 51 weeks of the year. This registration includes children aged from birth to 2 years and provides wrap-around care for those children attending the school's nursery provision. The school governance employ a manager, who holds an early years qualification at level 4. She is supported by four staff, all of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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