

Inspection date	20 September 2017
Previous inspection date	13 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

- The dedicated management team and experienced staff members are committed to providing children and their families with the best possible early years provision. Regular and reflective evaluation leads to effective plans that drive forward improvements.
- Staff observe and assess children's learning regularly. They carefully plan what children need to learn next and improve outcomes for children successfully.
- New children settle quickly because they feel safe, secure and well cared for. Staff are deployed well so that all children benefit from adult interaction that helps to support their all-round development and emotional well-being.
- The staff have good relationships with local schools that children move on to. Teachers are invited to visit the children at the pre-school. Staff share information with the teacher when children are due to start at school, helping to ensure continuity of learning and care.
- Staff give high priority to developing children's speaking and listening skills. They use every opportunity to reinforce children's vocabulary and conversation skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice is not incisive enough. It does not consistently provide highly effective support to develop staff skills and knowledge, to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.
- At times, staff interrupt children's play and learning with little warning, so children do not get the opportunity to draw their play to a conclusion.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate staff practice even more rigorously and support the development of their teaching skills and knowledge
- help children understand when there is to be a change in routine so they can finish what they are doing and end their play for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and assessed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's progress.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kelly Sunderland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Management and staff fully understand their role to protect children. They are clear about the procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare. Regular training and updates help to ensure that all staff have the most up-to-date knowledge of child protection procedures. Risk assessments are thorough and used well to identify and minimise any potential hazards. Parents praise the staff, who they feel provide a good service, sharing information about their children's progress and ideas for extending their children's learning at home. The management team and staff monitor children's progress. They ensure that they identify and address any gaps in children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of children's learning and development needs. They set up the environment invitingly for the children and provide a varied range of activities based on children's interests, ages and developmental stages. Staff encourage children to investigate and use their imagination well. They provide a good range of sensory activities. For example, children explore the texture and colour of shaving foam as they add powder paints and water. Children are interested and motivated to learn. For instance, they eagerly join in as they use 'magic wands' to identify shapes on a shape hunt around the pre-school grounds. This helps their mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The strong key-person system successfully supports children's positive relationships and sense of security. Staff know each child and their family circumstances extremely well. Children have good opportunities to challenge their physical skills. For example, children explore the different ways they can move in musical movement sessions and develop their fine manipulative skills as they balance marbles on golf tees. Children form close bonds with staff and good relationships with each other. They show good social skills as they talk to each other animatedly at mealtimes. Children's behaviour is good and they are kind to each other.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. They listen well to instructions and they thoroughly enjoy recalling, and joining in with, familiar stories and rhymes. Children explore technology with confidence. For example, children enjoy taking turns to take photographs with the pre-school children's camera. Children develop increasing independence in caring for themselves, such as using the toilet without help. These skills help to prepare children well for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	510075
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1091171
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	Little Hoots Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP519885
Date of previous inspection	13 February 2015
Telephone number	01242 678400

Little Hoots Ltd registered in 2008. It operates from a purpose-built annex situated within Grangefield Primary School, Bishops Cleeve. Little Hoots offers pre-school sessions on weekdays during term time from 9am to 3pm, and before- and after-school care from 8am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 5.30pm. A holiday club operates in the school holidays. Little Hoots employs nine members of staff to work with the children. Seven of these hold a qualification at level 3 or above.

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