

Little Foxes Playgroup

Fox Hollies Park Pavilion, Gospel Lane, Acocks Green, Birmingham, WEST
MIDLANDS, B27 7EG



Inspection date 29 September 2017
Previous inspection date 4 November 2014

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 manager is a good role model and provides effective leadership for the staff. They have worked conscientiously to make changes that sustain the good quality of the provision.
- Children settle quickly in the calm, welcoming environment. They take great pleasure in moving around the room to find toys and other resources of interest. They are content to explore on their own or to engage with adults to develop their play.
- Children behave well and follow rules consistently. They share, take turns and learn to have regard for the needs of other children.
- Staff effectively promote children's learning through a wide range of enjoyable play opportunities. They accurately assess children's development and plan well for the next steps in their learning. Children in receipt of additional funding receive effective support so that gaps in their learning close quickly.
- Strong partnerships with parents ensure children receive continued support with their learning at home. Parents receive clear information regarding children's learning and regular feedback about their progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not recognise where younger children will benefit from more support and attention during activities to accelerate their learning.
- The manager has not yet fully established the monitoring of staff practice to help them raise the quality of teaching 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:

- provide even more opportunities for younger children to become highly engaged in activities that are precisely matched to their learning needs
- continue to improve the monitoring of the provision to further raise the quality of teaching to higher levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of all persons working in the setting.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke with the provider.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Adelaide Griffith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Overall, the manager provides good support for staff to fulfil their roles. They have regular opportunities to discuss their professional development and to attend training. They make effective use of the information gained from training to better prepare children for school. For example, staff have extended activities by providing uniforms the schools expect children to wear. Children develop a strong sense of self-image as they try these on and pretend that they are at school. Parents and staff work well together to help children learn. Parents are pleased that children develop good skills in speaking English and grow in confidence. The manager reviews the achievements of groups of children to ensure all make good progress in their learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to report any concerns they may have about a child and to protect them from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff effectively promote children's development in all areas of learning. They interact warmly with the children and follow their lead consistently. Staff ensure there is a good balance between the adult-led activities and children's choices. Children enjoy sand play and staff use this to help them learn various skills. Staff encourage children to find hidden numbers and give praise appropriately, while promoting children's strong sense of achievement. Children learn about measures, for example, while they fill and empty containers, and develop an understanding of mathematical language. Staff talk about sand coming to the top. They observe children while they play and use the information to plan for further learning. Staff encourage parents to share what they do at home. Parents continue with reading, letter recognition and counting activities similar to those provided at the playgroup.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are growing in confidence while they settle in at the playgroup. They form strong relationships with key persons and relate well to adults. They behave well and understand the rules of the playgroup. For example, at snack time, children choose their favourite fruit and sit quietly at tables while they eat, and enjoy conversations with staff. Water is within reach, and children regularly pour their own drinks. They have opportunities for outdoors play. Children enjoy the calm atmosphere, which helps them to feel emotionally secure and to move from home to the new environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children receive good support to develop the skills they need for the next stage in their learning. All groups of children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress in their development. They have many opportunities to explore their surroundings and to examine and test resources. They benefit positively from their play and learning experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	227241
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1103280
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	The Little Foxes Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP527770
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2014
Telephone number	0121 706 5882

Little Foxes Playgroup registered in 1998. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am to 12.30pm. There are five members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate qualifications at level 6 or level 3. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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