

Little Rainbows

Charlotte Street, Plymouth, PL2 1RJ



Inspection date	13 October 2017
Previous inspection date	27 June 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 members of the management team have a strong drive to improve the service they provide. They consult parents to make positive changes, such as improving access to the nursery when children first arrive so they settle quickly.
- Staff interact with children positively and provide good support to their learning. For example, they skilfully pose questions to encourage children to solve problems. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff make precise observations and assessments of children's levels of development. They use this information effectively to plan activities that support the next steps in their learning.
- Partnerships with other providers and parents are effective. Staff keep parents informed about children's progress and consult them about what children are learning at home. Children benefit from a consistent approach and increased support to their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes staff do not provide older children with opportunities to extend their manipulative skills using tools such as scissors.
- Children do not have regular opportunities to experience differences between communities and traditions to extend their understanding of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more encouragement for older children to use tools, such as scissors, independently to extend their manipulative skills further
- provide a wider range of experiences to extend children's understanding of other cultures beyond their own.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff engaged in activities with children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector looked at a range of policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector talked to children and parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are vigilant and know the signs that might lead to a concern about a child. They are clear about the correct procedure to follow to keep children safe from harm. The manager monitors learning well to notice any gaps in children's development. She uses funding well and works in effective partnership with outside agencies to ensure all children reach their full potential. The management team recruits and supervises staff effectively and provides good support to their professional development. It ensures staff keep their knowledge and skills up to date. For example, the team shares good practice on how to provide children with group activities that support their social and emotional development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn through play, and they use good teaching techniques to support their development. For example, staff encourage younger children to hold a rolling pin correctly to roll out their play dough, demonstrating and explaining until they manage it for themselves. Staff encourage older children to count the snails they have collected and compare their shapes and sizes. Children gain good mathematical skills and develop a good understanding of the natural world. Staff organise a good mix of child-initiated and adult-led activities. For example, they encourage older children to describe the texture of 'gloop' in a tray and invite younger ones to make animal sounds and actions during story time. Children make good progress in their communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are caring and attentive and get to know children well. They are good role models and provide strong support to children to cooperate with each other and share resources. For example, at group times, they support younger children to take turns to cuddle a special teddy and then pass it to a friend. Children follow good hygiene routines and manage their own self-care independently. Staff provide useful information to parents about healthy eating. Children enjoy nutritious snacks and daily fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children take part in physical activities with enthusiasm. Older children skilfully steer bicycles around obstacles, and younger ones balance confidently on stepping stones. Children gain the skills they need for future learning and starting school. Older children recognise some of the letters in their name when they arrive and find their coat pegs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477865
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1108592
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	KCP Keystone CIC
Registered person unique reference number	RP901727
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2017
Telephone number	01752 561602

Little Rainbows re-registered in 2014. It operates from Morice Town in Plymouth, Devon. The nursery runs various sessions between 8.30am and 5.30pm on weekdays for 50 weeks of the year. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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