

Little Avenues Pre-School

The Bungalow, Broome Grove, Wivenhoe, COLCHESTER, CO7 9QB



Inspection date	9 November 2017
Previous inspection date	16 January 2013

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 pre-school is led and managed well. Management and staff strive for excellence. They reflect on the service provided and seek the views of parents and children when planning for improvement.
- Relationships with parents are friendly and trusting. Partnership working is a particular strength of this pre-school. Parents are respected as their child's key educator and are actively encouraged to remain involved in their child's learning.
- Staff plan and provide a good range of activities, indoors and outside, that promotes all areas of learning. Good attention to planning for outdoors helps ensure that those children who learn best from being outside are able to do so. Children make good progress.
- Staff are exceptionally caring towards the children. Children come into the pre-school readily and develop secure emotional bonds with staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are sometimes distracted by routines and domestic tasks. Some children are occasionally overlooked and do not always receive an equal level of interaction with staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor staff more closely to build on the already good practice, in order to promote consistently good-quality teaching and interactions with children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the provider/manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider/manager and they also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement. Managers have high expectations for the provision and the quality of care and learning for all children. An action plan is in place that is challenging, but achievable. Staff have regular opportunities for supervision and to continue their professional development. Training needs are identified and met. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated. They work very well as a team, to meet children's individual care and learning needs. Parents describe staff as friendly, approachable and caring. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are aware of their responsibilities to protect the emotional and physical well-being of children. Strong partnerships have been established with the host school, helping to ensure that children are supported well as they prepare for the next stage in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand the learning and development requirements. They observe children as they play and evaluate their observations well. This supports them to identify where children are in their learning and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. The quality of teaching is generally good and is sometimes outstanding. Activities are rooted in children's interests and support children well as they get ready for school. Staff are actively engaged in the children's play and are led by what they want to do. Children play imaginatively. For example, they enjoy using the foliage brought in by staff to create forests for the small-world dinosaurs. Children develop individual creativity as they create pictures using collage materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know about children's home lives and talk to them about their families, significantly enhancing their sense of belonging. Staff have a positive approach to diversity and support children to develop a positive sense of themselves. They help children learn about the wider world beyond their own experiences. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. The member of staff responsible for these children is knowledgeable and enthusiastic about her role, helping to ensure that they make the best possible progress. Children behave well and develop good friendships with each other. They respond well to the high expectations from staff and play harmoniously together. Children learn to have regard for each other's needs. They readily use the sand timers to wait for a turn with popular resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. Children are independent and motivated learners who readily lead their own play. They are beginning to recognise their written name and to write their name on their artwork. Children count in routine and play situations. They manage their personal hygiene needs relevant to their age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448529
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1065983
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Little Avenues Pre-School CIC
Registered person unique reference number	RP903316
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2013
Telephone number	07895180207

Little Avenues Pre-School registered in 2012. The pre-school employs 10 members of childcare staff, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including a member of staff with early years professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9am to 2.45pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and from 9am to 1pm on Thursday and Friday.

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