

Little Owls CIO St Budeaux



Victoria Road Primary School, Trelawney Avenue, Plymouth, PL5 1RH

Inspection date	17 November 2017
Previous inspection date	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

- The management team is committed to driving improvement and developing the service it provides. The views of parents and children help staff to make positive changes, such as providing additional resources to strengthen children's learning at home. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children receive good support in their social and emotional development. Staff skilfully help children to recognise their feelings and how their actions affect others. Recent training has improved staff's expertise in supporting children to treat each other with kindness and consideration, for example.
- Staff interact positively with children and support their communication and language skills well. For example, younger children enjoy playing games that improve their pronunciation of simple words. Staff provide good encouragement for older children to listen carefully to each other's experiences and contribute to group discussions well.
- Partnerships with parents are good. There is an effective two-way flow of information about children's achievements that helps to support good consistency in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to adapt and enrich activities for younger children to maintain their interest, concentration and extend their learning even further.
- There are few opportunities for more experienced staff to share their good practice to strengthen the effectiveness of the staff team.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adapt and enrich activities for younger children to maintain their interest, concentration and extend their learning further
- provide more opportunities for experienced staff to share their good practice to strengthen the effectiveness of the staff team.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed staff interacting with children indoors and outside.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team and looked at the nursery's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and looked at a range of documentation, including children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children on the day of inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team recruits and supervises staff effectively to help ensure that only suitable people work with children. Staff deployment is effective and the correct number of staff are in place to supervise and care for children throughout the nursery. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are vigilant and knowledgeable about the signs that might lead them to be concerned about a child's welfare. They are clear about the correct procedure to follow to keep children safe from harm. The manager monitors children's learning conscientiously to notice when children need extra help. She uses funding effectively and works successfully with outside agencies to help ensure all children reach their full potential. Positive partnerships with local schools help support children to move on to school with confidence and self-assurance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how children learn through play and they assess their levels of development effectively to identify the next steps in their learning. Staff plan a good mix of activities that focuses on specific areas of learning and experiences that help to encourage children to explore and develop their own ideas. Staff support children well in their literacy development. For example, older children listen intently to stories and gain a good sense of rhyme as staff encourage them to join in with the familiar phrases. Staff share picture books with babies, skilfully encouraging them to point and to turn pages and supporting their interest and enjoyment well. Staff provide a stimulating learning environment to encourage children's exploration, such as creative resources that help children to develop their imaginations and mark-making skills. Staff plan activities that positively reflect other cultures to help support children's understanding of the wider world effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff supervise children well and are caring and attentive to their individual needs. They carry out regular checks on children's safety and remind them about potential hazards to minimise accidents. Staff are good role models and use a variety of positive strategies to help children to behave well. For example, children are eager to listen and follow staff's instructions to gain a 'golden ticket' reward and praise for their good behaviour. Children enjoy helping themselves to healthy snacks and have regular access to fresh air and physical activities. Older children develop good coordination and balance as they climb and ride bicycles with increasing determination and skill. Babies explore resources such as treasure baskets with curiosity and improve their good manipulative and sensory skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they need for future learning and starting school. They enjoy learning and take part in activities with enthusiasm. Children do well in their mathematical development. Older children count and compare quantities confidently and younger ones recognise colours and shapes as they play games. Children put on their own coats, manage their own good hygiene routines and become independent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY546271
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1117779
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 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Little Owls Preschool Plymouth CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP903932
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01752 656380

Little Owls CIO St Budeaux registered in 2017 and is one of two settings managed by the same committee. The nursery is open from 8am until 5pm throughout the year. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 10 staff who work with the children, all of whom hold relevant qualifications. This includes the manager, who has qualified teacher status.

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