

Little Gems 3

United Reformed Church, Harestone Hill, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6SX



Inspection date	11 January 2018
Previous inspection date	14 July 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

- Senior management demonstrates a good understanding of the pre-school's strengths and areas for development and is committed to driving ongoing improvement.
- The new manager and staff work closely to evaluate the provision and identify ways to improve outcomes for children further. They monitor all groups of children to help close gaps in learning and provide support when required to help them move on to their next stage in learning swiftly.
- Staff have a good understanding of children's individual learning styles. Planning is effective and takes account of children's interests and next steps in learning, in particular, those children who are less confident.
- Key staff establish good partnerships with parents and other professionals to support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and those who are learning English as an additional language.
- Staff have reorganised the learning environment indoors to provide a greater range of interesting and challenging activities that motivates and inspires children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to involve parents in their children's learning. For example, staff do not share how parents can support their children's learning further at home.
- Staff do not consistently support those children who prefer to play and explore outdoors to help extend their play opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- engage parents further in how they can further support their children's learning at home
- make better use of the outdoor learning environment to support those children who prefer to play and learn outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with a member of the management team.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including staff suitability, safeguarding procedures, risk assessments and children's development records.
- The inspector held a meeting with the area manager.

Inspector

Janet Thouless

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management has made considerable improvements since the previous inspection. For example, a new manager has been appointed and management has provided a training programme of professional development. This has helped staff develop their skills in observation and assessment and the tracking of children's progress even further. Safeguarding is effective. All staff now have a comprehensive knowledge of the wider issues of safeguarding to help keep children safe. Staff know to record accurate records of children's attendance and complete thorough risk assessments. For example, arrival and departure times have been added to the register and stone steps and hand rails have been built so children can safely access outdoor play. Parents comment that they are happy with their children's care, learning and progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff successfully support children's communication and language skills to develop vocabulary. For example, staff encourage children to recognise and name their own unique facial features and the differing features of their friends. Staff build children's early mathematical development well. For instance, they explain to them that they are filling and emptying pots with rice and pasta. Staff provide challenging activities that engage boys in developing their literacy skills. For example, when constructing, boys make marks on boxes and large paper. Staff read to children at spontaneous moments and children enjoy listening to stories and exploring the illustrations in books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are caring and nurture children's emotional well-being. The effective key-person system enables children to settle quickly into pre-school routines and develops partnerships with parents. Children's behaviour is good. They learn the importance of sharing and taking turns, and show kindness and consideration to each other. Children take responsibility in caring for their environment and they help tidy up at the end of play. Staff successfully develop children's physical health. They offer healthy nutritional snacks and daily opportunities to be physically active. For example, children enjoy a wide selection of fruits, breads and pulses and participate in action songs and games.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages and abilities make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children enjoy searching for wildlife in the church grounds. They listen to environmental sounds and confidently name what they hear. They are beginning to identify risks and know that after heavy rainfall the ground outdoors might be slippery so are cautious. Children are well prepared for their next stage of learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122423
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1109606
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Little Gems and Little Treasures Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908032
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2017
Telephone number	01883343678

Little Gems 3 registered in 2000. It is one of three privately owned settings. The pre-school is open on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.15am to 12.15pm during term time only. A lunch club operates each day until 1.15pm. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are seven members of staff who work with the children. Of these, one holds early years professional status and four hold recognised early years qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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