

Little Learners Nursery and Preschool

15 St. Nicholas Avenue, HORNCHURCH, Essex, RM12 4PT



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

29 November 2017

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

- Children have good relationships with staff and each other. Older children share and take turns well during play, creating a calm and productive environment. Younger children who are new to the setting are supported well by staff who offer lots of comfort and reassurance, helping children to keep safe and feel secure.
- Staff promote children's communication and language skills exceptionally well during play. They skilfully extend children's learning through meaningful conversations and encourage them to express their thoughts and feelings.
- Staff are well deployed to ensure children are appropriately supervised and time is used effectively. As a result, children engage in a good range of free-play and adult-led activities which promote all areas of learning effectively.
- Thorough methods of self-evaluation are implemented by managers to ensure they have a good overview of the settings strengths and areas they plan to improve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Older children have too few opportunities to make marks and develop writing skills independently because resources are not visible enough to promote their interest or inspire them to use writing for a variety of purposes during play.
- Bathrooms for toddlers and babies are not well organised. As a result space for children and staff to move freely is limited which restricts their privacy and does not promote a welcoming environment for toddlers to develop their self-care skills such as potty training and hand washing routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage older children to engage in more activities that promote their literacy skills, so that they develop skills in mark making and use writing for a variety of purposes during play
- improve the organisation and presentation of the bathrooms/nappy changing areas in the baby and toddler rooms to enable staff and children to move freely, assure their privacy and provide a welcoming environment for younger children to develop their self-care skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning during indoor and outside play.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned activity with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a variety of relevant documentation, including children and staff records, self-evaluation and records of observation, assessment and planning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager about concerns that have been raised to Ofsted since the last inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents, children and staff and took account of their views.

Inspector

Josephine Geoghegan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to recognise and report any signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm. Robust systems are in place to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff. Managers implement highly effective methods of supervision and reflective practice to promote the quality of teaching. For example, managers and staff complete regular peer observations which enable staff to strengthen their practice in an open and supportive manner. Previous concerns regarding the support offered to children who have additional needs have now been addressed. Staff work with outside agencies and parents to ensure children's learning needs are identified at an early stage. All required documents are used appropriately to ensure the smooth management of the setting and promote children's welfare effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a clear understanding of children's individual learning needs. They know what children can do and plan activities that are tailored to help them make good progress. Ongoing methods of assessment are used to provide an overview of the progress of individual and groups of children. Parents are actively encouraged to share information about children's learning at home. Staff fully engage children in group activities. As a result, children listen well during story times and join in enthusiastically, talking about the story and singing songs. Older children are developing good early writing skills, however they have fewer opportunities to develop these skills spontaneously during play. The good quality of teaching enables all children to participate in activities well. For example, staff skilfully support and acknowledge the enthusiasm of children who enjoy messy play and gently encourage others to join in in their own time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved. They know the daily routines and show a good understanding of expectations of their behaviour. Older children develop good personal skills, such as putting on their own coats and using the bathroom independently. This helps prepare them for their move on to school. However, bathrooms for babies and toddlers are not well presented or organised to enable ease of use. Children's good health is promoted through a healthy diet and regular exercise. They enjoy relaxed and sociable mealtimes with staff where they talk about the foods they like and events of the day. Babies' individual needs and routines are promoted well to assure consistency of care with parents.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in all areas of learning. Good systems are in place to share information with parents about their children's progress, including the review at age two and individual learning plans for children who have additional needs. Staff implement good transition routines to help babies and toddlers when they move to the next group room. Older children are well prepared for their move on to school. They are becoming confident and independent learners as they make choices and follow their own interests during play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488395
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	1114408
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 - 0
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Lifeline Enterprises Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908984
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01708450781

Little Learners Nursery and Preschool registered in 2015. It operates from a converted house in Elm Park in the London Borough of Havering. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, except Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery employs 14 staff who work directly with the children, of these 13 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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