Little Imps

Messingham Village Hall, Wendover Road, Messingham, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 3QU



Inspection date	19 February 2018
Previous inspection date	7 May 2015

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and m	anagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asse	ssment	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 manager and deputy manager are well qualified and ambitious. Staff demonstrate they have a deep respect for the manager. They receive good opportunities to speak one-to-one with the manager and they say that they are confident in asking for advice.
- Focused improvement plans include feedback from staff, parents and children. These help to target and address areas for improvement well.
- Staff join in with children's play and use questions to help them think. Staff encourage children to talk them about what they are doing. This helps to promote children's language skills well.
- Staff have developed very warm, trusting relationships between themselves and the children. This helps children to develop a strong sense of emotional well-being.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff use a range of techniques to encourage this, such as gentle persuasion and positive praise and reinforcement.
- Staff work very well with parents and use different ways to communicate and share information well about children's next steps in learning. For example, parents regularly receive a learning and development summary about their child's progress. Furthermore, information sharing is well-thought out to reach all parents. One example of this is the private social networking site.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some children lose interest in their play and are not always fully motivated to make the best possible progress.
- The procedures for monitoring staff's practice are not yet precisely focused enough to support all of them to progress their teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on teaching skills to provide even more rich, varied and exciting activities
- extend the methods used to monitor staff's performance to focus even more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.

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 and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the day care manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the day care.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues. They know what to do if they are worried about the welfare or safety of a child. Children play in a safe and secure environment. Staff supervise them well, indoors and outdoors. This further contributes to the safety of children. The manager follows a thorough recruitment and induction process for new staff. This helps to ensure that staff are suitable to care for children. Staff have professional development opportunities that help them to develop their skills to benefit children. For example, staff have received training in literacy. This has improved the way staff encourage children to learn to write.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and deputy manager are very good teaching role models for the staff team. The qualified staff provide an accurate picture of children's learning and progress through a selection of observations, assessment and future planning opportunities. Staff use small-group times effectively to help extend children's listening and attention skills. Children enjoy a variety of opportunities to develop their imagination, such as when exploring a large cardboard box. They have fun hiding, pretending to be astronauts and transforming the box into a fire engine.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from healthy snacks, such as breadsticks, cucumber and carrot. Staff ensure that the snacks and drinks reflect children's specific dietary requirements. Children play an active role in helping to keep play areas tidy and they willingly help to sweep up spilt sand and tidy up at the end of a session. Staff help children gain a good knowledge of their local community. For example, children enjoy a treasure hunt around the local shops and businesses. Staff closely supervise children as they access the outdoor play ground. Children benefit from having plenty of space to develop their exploratory and physical skills. Staff use their good links with the schools that children go on to attend, to support the transition process.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. This includes those children for whom the day care receive funding. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring their creativity with stampers and paint. They eagerly give pictures to the provider. Children wash their hands after using the bathroom and before eating. This promotes their good personal hygiene skills. Some children show sustained levels of concentration investigating and exploring in the sand with dinosaurs and during role-play activities. Children gain the key skills and attitudes that they need for their move on to school and more formal learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number 205708

Local authority North Lincolnshire

Inspection number 1089921

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 8

Total number of places 32

Number of children on roll 47

Name of registered person Deborah Mary Gelder

Registered person unique

reference number

RP513247

Date of previous inspection 7 May 2015

Telephone number 01724 761 316

Little Imps registered in 1995. The day care employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The day care opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm, except on Wednesdays when the setting closes from 1pm until 3.15pm. A breakfast and after-school club operates during term time. The day care opens during holiday periods, depending on demand. The day care provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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