

Little Shipmates Day Nursery

1 Malwood Road West, Hythe, Southampton, SO45 5DB



Inspection date

30 May 2018

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

- Staff create a happy environment throughout the nursery where children make good developmental progress. Any gaps in learning are identified and addressed effectively.
- Management supports staff to develop their knowledge and skills well. Staff are enthusiastic about their work and teaching is continually improving.
- Strong partnerships with parents and professionals lead to positive outcomes for children and their families. Funding is used imaginatively to enhance the learning and development opportunities for the children.
- Careful reflection and monitoring lead to targeted improvements. For example, management recognised that technology was not a strong subject and targeted this aspect to enhance children's learning in this area.
- Positive values are interwoven into every aspect of the setting. Staff are sensitive, gentle and respectful in their interactions and children behave well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully embrace the opportunities to encourage children's awareness of diversity and the similarities and differences between people.
- Staff do not consistently share ideas with parents to encourage children's development at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a richer range of opportunities for children to recognise and appreciate diversity within communities beyond their immediate experiences, to encourage their awareness of similarities and differences
- build on the already good partnerships with parents to develop more effective ways to help them support their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and reviewed resources with the manager.
- The inspector observed the children and staff at play in each room and outdoors.
- The inspector observed and discussed a planned activity with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the setting with parents.
- The inspector talked to staff and children, and reviewed a selection of documents.

Inspector

Lynne Lewington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff manage risks effectively to ensure activities and the environment are safe for children. They know how to recognise and respond appropriately to any concerns about children's welfare. The management team is strong and effective. Managers reflect on practice using the views of staff, parents, professionals and children in order to continually improve. Where weaknesses are identified, they plan and implement improvements effectively. Staff are supported to keep their knowledge up to date and continue their professional development. As a result, they are enthusiastic and staff retention is good. Staff carefully observe and assess children's progress to ensure they get the encouragement they need to progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children well to develop their early writing skills. For example, children use water to paint the fences and use clipboards outside to make marks and notes in a variety of activities. Staff encourage language well. They listen attentively, model language well and ask questions that encourage children to think. Staff create an interesting variety of opportunities for learning. For example, they encourage children to look for bugs in the garden and use magnifying glasses to look at them. Children talk about the shapes they are making in the dough and copy the staff's example of how to make balls and sausage shapes. They use the tools with increasing dexterity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff sensitively meet the needs of the youngest children. They value the information shared by parents, to effectively enable each child to flourish. Staff teach children to manage risks, such as cutting their own fruit at snack time safely and using knives and forks to eat their meals. Staff are attentive, engage in the children's play and exploration, and enable children to feel confident and secure. Staff encourage children's awareness of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they talk about the fresh fruit they eat at snack and the reasons why they need to wash their hands before meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills that help to prepare them for the next stages of their education. For example, they use their imaginations in their play as they act out their own stories in the garden. Children recognise colours, numbers and shapes, and count well. Older children demonstrate increasing coordination and balance as they climb and walk along the tyres and use the climbing frame and slide. Children concentrate intently as they mix the paint and explore the textures and marks they can make with their hands. Children learn to listen to others and recognise feelings. They develop their personal independence and awareness that they have choices.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500189
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1053381
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	60
Number of children on roll	135
Name of registered person	Little Shipmates Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903282
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	023 80841166

Little Shipmates Day Nursery opened in 2000 and re-registered in 2016. It is one of five nurseries privately owned and managed. The nursery is located in Hythe, Hampshire. The nursery opens from 8am to 6pm from Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. A team of 27 staff works with the children, 22 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. Of these, 20 staff hold qualifications at level 3 or above.

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