

Little Legs Nursery

43 High Street, SITTINGBOURNE, Kent, ME10 4AW



Inspection date

15 June 2018

Previous inspection date

30 January 2018

| 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

- The manager demonstrates strong leadership skills. He has worked hard to rapidly transform and improve the professional practice of staff and to develop the environment. He uses the views of parents, children and staff to promptly identify areas for improvement and to evaluate the impact on children's learning and well-being.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language make good progress from their starting points. Staff use their knowledge of children's learning and their interests to plan challenging activities.
- Staff form nurturing relationships with children who are settled and happy. Children are well behaved and polite as they confidently play and learn alongside their friends.
- Staff help children learn to stay healthy and safe. For example, robust procedures and thorough training for all staff have been put in place to effectively maintain good standards of hygiene and safety. Staff are attentive and responsive to the care needs of all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff ask children good questions to develop their learning, they do not always give them time to answer to help them build and extend on what children already know.
- Staff work well with parents and regularly inform them about their children's learning. However, new ways of sharing information about how parents can continue to contribute and support their children's learning at home are not fully imbedded.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children time to respond to questions asked by staff to extend and build on what they already know.
- Strengthen the good partnership working with all parents to engage them more in their children's ongoing development and continued learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning indoors and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and provider, and spoke with all staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with children and parents, sampled parent questionnaires and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records of children's progress, the nursery's self-evaluation and improvement plans, evidence of staff suitability, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has worked tirelessly to make significant changes to the nursery. The well-qualified staff receive regular support to develop their professional knowledge and skills, through targeted training, mentoring and meetings. For example, following training, staff have improved their observations and assessments of children's learning and development. The manager closely monitors children's progress to ensure they are well supported. Interventions are timely and minimise any gaps that might occur in their learning and development. Recruitment and induction of new staff is thorough. Safeguarding is effective. For example, all staff know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They work closely with other professionals to ensure those who may be at risk of harm are kept safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly assess and monitor children's next steps in learning. They plan stimulating activities that support their interests and developing skills. For example, young children are fascinated to learn about magnets. Older children develop their physical skills with more challenging activities, such as cutting out pictures using scissors. Communication and language skills are supported very well. For instance, babies use sign language to communicate 'more' and 'thank you' during snack time. Staff introduce words, such as 'evaporate' and 'temperature' as children play with water. Children enjoy regular high-quality story times and spontaneously sing with staff. Opportunities are planned for children to build on their mathematical knowledge, such as when they count out money in the role-play shop or enthusiastically sing number rhymes together as a group.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a warm and nurturing environment. Children learn to be considerate of each other's feelings as staff positively support their social and emotional well-being. They play with resources that help promote their understanding of the world and the environment. For example, they use small watering cans to water the plants they have grown outside. Visits to local places, such as the museum and pet shop, help reinforce their learning about the wider community. Staff ensure the environment is clean, well organised and safe. Children develop healthy routines and enjoy eating nutritious meals together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and keen learners who are well prepared for their future learning and school. They practise skills for writing as they make marks in the sand tray or paint the shed with water. They learn to focus and concentrate as they become deeply involved in their chosen play. Older babies have space to confidently move as they explore and investigate toys. Children are sociable and very happy.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY460281 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 1125416 |
| 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 | 1 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 43 |
| Number of children on roll | 65 |
| Name of registered person | Little Legs (Colchester) Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP910319 |
| Date of previous inspection | 30 January 2018 |
| Telephone number | 01795 227552 |

Little Legs Nursery is owned by Little Legs (Colchester) Limited. The nursery registered in 2013 and operates in Sittingbourne, Kent. It is open each weekday from 7.30am until 6pm, for most of the year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 13 members of staff, nine of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 and one with a level 2 qualification. The provider also employs a suitably qualified cook.

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