

Little Learners Pre-School

Silver Jubilee Hall, Brewers End, Takeley, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Hertfordshire, CM22 6QJ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

26 June 2018

13 July 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Since the last inspection, the experienced and well-qualified provider has developed opportunities to consistently review staff performance. Staff have regular meetings with her to discuss their training needs and this helps to support their knowledge and skills.
- Parents appreciate the regular opportunities they have to discuss their children's learning and progress with staff. They value the advice they are given to help support their children's learning at home.
- Staff work with parents to find out what children can do when they start at the pre-school and establish next steps in their learning. From then on, they observe children regularly to plan suitable activities that interest and engage their ongoing participation and learning. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Good relationships have been nurtured between the pre-school staff and teachers in the local schools, which children eventually move on to. Information about children's daily needs and achievements is shared with staff at other local nurseries or with childminders, where the care of children is shared.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide a varied range of experiences and resources to promote children's understanding of people, families and communities different to their own.
- The provider does not seek the opinions of parents and use this information effectively to drive ongoing improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich opportunities for children to learn about and reflect on people and communities different to their immediate experiences
- enhance the methods used to seek and evaluate the views of parents, and focus even more precisely on driving ongoing improvements to the quality of practice to a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed an evaluation of an activity with the provider.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the provider, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector discussed with the provider how she reflects on practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through feedback discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider ensures that staff receive up-to-date information on child protection issues. Staff understand the procedures to follow to help keep children safe and know whom to contact if they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare. The premises are checked daily to ensure any potential hazards are minimised and ensure the building remains secure. The provider and staff accurately assess children's progress. They identify those at risk of falling behind and work closely, where necessary, with other professionals to ensure children receive the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children to confidently lead their own learning. For example, children use role-play equipment to create a band of drummers. They spontaneously sing along to the rhythms they produce. Children are very excited as they look through magnifying glasses to track mini-beasts, linking the knowledge they have acquired through discussions and topic activities. Later they make further links in their learning as they create ladybirds, using paints and corks. Staff take this opportunity to extend learning, introducing numbers and encouraging children to count the spots on their ladybird. Children freely choose books to share with each other and they understand how books work. Staff skilfully develop children's language and communication skills. For instance, they repeat sentences back to children very clearly to help their accurate pronunciation of words. Children enjoy the variety of interesting activities provided. They enthusiastically choose what to do and concentrate well. They are curious and keen to learn.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There are caring relationships between the children and staff and this helps to support children's emotional well-being. Children are happy, feel safe and behave well. They pour their own drinks and choose which snack they would like. Staff support children's understanding of healthy lifestyles effectively through discussions. Children thoroughly enjoy plenty of physical activities outside in the fresh air. Staff establish firm boundaries that help children to keep safe. Children listen carefully, follow instructions and learn how to share and take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for the next stage of their education, including school. They learn to recognise their own name and manage personal needs. Children enjoy engaging in mark making and learning how to count to 10 and beyond. Older children practise writing the initial sound of their name using their developing phonetical knowledge. Children learn to respect each other and play in harmony.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305665
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1109582
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Little Learners Pre-School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP525480
Date of previous inspection	13 July 2017
Telephone number	07947 023 866

Little Learners Pre-School registered in 2005. The provider employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens Monday to Wednesday from 9am to 3pm, on a Thursday from 9am to 12.30pm, and on a Friday from 9am to 3pm, during term time only. The pre-school staff provide early education funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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