

The Little Learning Tree Preschool



Number One Community Trust Tw, 1 Rowan Tree Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 5PX

Inspection date	27 June 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

- The manager is ambitious and has high expectations to help inspire her team to support children's learning. Staff have good opportunities to attend further training to help build on their professional knowledge and skills.
- Staff establish positive relationships with children and get to know them very well. This helps children develop their self-esteem and a good sense of belonging.
- The partnerships with parents are strong. Parents speak very highly of the pre-school. They feel well informed about their children's good progress.
- Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop their understanding of other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. For example, children learn about different countries and cultural celebrations.
- Children have plenty of opportunities to practise their physical skills. For example, they enjoy making marks, and confidently use ride-on toys and climbing equipment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff miss opportunities to engage and challenge children's learning within their play.
- Staff promote children's language development well; however, there are not enough opportunities for children to use their home languages within their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more opportunities to engage and challenge them further in their play and learning
- increase opportunities for children to use their home languages within their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's progress.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at convenient times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including staff suitability, children's progress, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Nicky Chambers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager effectively monitors individual children's progress and groups of children, to help identify and close any gaps in their development successfully. For example, she created story sacks to help support children's speech and language skills. Partnerships with parents and other professionals involved in children's care are well established. For example, staff effectively share information and this helps provide consistency and continuity in children's care and learning. The manager demonstrates a strong commitment in her drive for continual improvement. She regularly reflects on her practice and seeks the views of parents, staff and children to help identify areas for development. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding and child protection, and understand the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff track and monitor children's progress well. They use information from parents along with their observations to identify children's starting points. Staff effectively plan a range of activities that is personalised to children's individual needs, to help them move forward in their learning. Children are happy, settled and eager to play and learn. They benefit from a range of interesting resources that helps to support their development in all areas of learning. For example, children explore with paint, different materials, pens and water and are encouraged to give meaning to marks they make and talk about different textures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with many opportunities to help enhance their independence skills. For example, children are very involved in the preparation of snacks, including peeling fruit, pouring drinks and clearing the table once they have finished. Staff are positive role models and manage children's behaviour well. Children learn about the importance of good health and benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. For example, they visit the local supermarket to buy healthy food for their snack.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress in their learning. They gain good skills to help prepare them well for their future learning. Children gain good social skills and work together to complete tasks, such as helping each other and negotiating space to build a tower. Children learn early literacy skills well. For example, they learn to recognise their written name and enjoy books which they can take home and read with their family.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538760
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1073897
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	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	The Little Learning Tree Preschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP538759
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07925177730

The Little Learning Tree Preschool registered in 2016. It operates from a community centre in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. The pre-school opens from 9am to 3pm on Monday to Friday, term times only. The provider employs seven staff. The manager and deputy manager have childcare qualifications at level 6 and the other members of staff have relevant qualifications at level 3. The provider receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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