

Little Explorers Pre-School

Little Explorers Pre School, Station Road, Ditton Priors, BRIDGNORTH,
Shropshire WV16 6SS



Inspection date	18 September 2018
Previous inspection date	23 February 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The manager has a strong dedication to continual improvement. She accurately evaluates the pre-school and knows how to improve the quality of practice further. The manager includes the views of others, such as parents in self-evaluation.
- The manager monitors children's progress and the curriculum well. She identifies ways to increase children's rates of learning. The manager encourages staff to quickly support children who start with skills lower than expected. This helps to close gaps in their learning.
- Teaching is strong. For example, staff skilfully interact with children while they are playing in the outside kitchen. They ask children mathematical questions, and this encourages them to respond and describe different quantities.
- Children who start, settle quickly. They have strong bonds with staff and enjoy sitting with them and involving them in their play. Staff care for children attentively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet implemented her plans to enhance the monitoring and evaluation of staff's practice to raise further the quality of teaching and outcomes for children.
- Key persons do not make the best use of the information that they gather from parents when children start attending, to assess children starting points.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of staff practice to build on the good teaching and outcomes for children
- make the most of the information gathered from parents about what their children know and can do when they first start to fully inform initial assessments.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact on children's learning. He discussed children's progress with staff.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. He viewed the written feedback from parents and considered their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager. He discussed with her the arrangements for monitoring children's learning and staff practice.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises. He discussed with staff self-evaluation and the arrangements for safeguarding.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Professional development has a positive impact on developing staff's knowledge. For example, they have used the skills gained from a recent course to develop their interaction with children. Staff now given children more time to respond to questions. This helps to promote children's communication development. Partnership's with the providers of other settings children attend are well-established. This helps to promote continuity in children's care and learning. Staff have formed strong links with the teachers at the host school. This has a positive impact on preparing children for their eventual move to school. Safeguarding is effective. The premises are safe. Staff understand child protection policies and the safer recruitment procedures are robust.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff sensitively observe children's learning and accurately assess their ongoing progress. Their planning of activities is effective. This supports children to reach the next stage in their learning and develop the skills they need for school. For example, staff teach children good literacy skills. They encourage them to link sounds to the letters they represent in words when exploring different vegetables and their names. Staff skilfully extend children's learning about food and living things. They grow vegetables with children at the pre-school and then harvest them to help demonstrate to children where some food comes from. This helps to promote their understanding of the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a stimulating learning environment inside and outside. Children who prefer to learn outside have access to a wide range of resources. Boys enjoy using the toy tools to pretend to make and mend things. This helps to promote their imaginations. The environment provides a good level of physical challenge for children. They learn how to safely clamber up mounds in the garden. Staff promote children's good behaviour well. They consistently teach children rules that they follow. Staff have a strong focus on helping children to understand the importance of being healthy. They explain to children why they must cover their mouths when they cough to help prevent the spread of germs.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning, including children who the pre-school receives additional funding for. Children learn how to manage their own self-care needs. By the time they go to school they are toilet trained. Children have a growing knowledge of colours and can name the colours of some vegetables, such as yellow parsnips. They can sit and listen during activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477567
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	10065821
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Little Explorers Pre-School Management Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522656
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2016
Telephone number	01746 712506

Little Explorers Pre-School registered in 2014. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with early years professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term times only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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