

Little Fishes Pre-School

Lodge Farm Community Centre, Lings NN3 8JJ



Inspection date	28 September 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- Managers are extremely knowledgeable and highly skilled. They are passionate about improving outcomes for all children. Highly experienced and well-trained staff build on children's individual skills and abilities. They constantly reflect on and evaluate their teaching and the impact this has on maximising children's learning.
- All children make exceptional progress from their starting points. Staff precisely track children's learning and managers rigorously analyse the achievements made by different groups. Together they effectively identify any gaps in learning and take swift action to address these.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are exceptionally well supported to maximise their learning. Timely interventions and additional funding are used extremely well to provide children with the support they need to achieve the best possible progress.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Well-coordinated strategies and excellent two-way communication enable parents to be fully involved in their children's education at pre-school and at home.
- Children's language and communication development is supported exceptionally well. Staff consistently enhance children's vocabulary and provide innovative ways to help them to develop their listening and attention skills.
- Self-evaluation is highly effective. The views of staff, parents and children are reflected on and used to support continuous improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to make the most of professional development opportunities and monitor the impact these have on maintaining the highest levels of achievement for all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations of activities with the manager and the deputy manager and spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager, deputy manager and a representative from the committee. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff are extremely vigilant and children's safety and welfare are consistently promoted. They fully understand how to promote children's well-being and keep them safe and protected from harm and neglect. All staff undertake regular child protection training and are aware of the procedures to follow to report any concerns. Rigorous recruitment and supervision processes are in place to ensure staffs ongoing suitability to work with children. Partnerships with other professionals are highly successful. Managers work closely with outside agencies drawing on their expertise to help ensure children receive the support they need. They regularly liaise with teachers to share important information about children's care and learning to support their transition in to school. This extremely well-coordinated approach helps to ensure children's welfare and learning is prioritise.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is highly effective. Staff have an excellent knowledge of children's individual needs and abilities. They hold very high expectations of all the children and expertly challenge their thinking to extend their knowledge and progress their learning. Staff successfully plan motivating and challenging activities, based on children's likes and interests. Children relish being able to make choices about where they play. They are highly motivated and thoroughly enjoy exploring the exciting range of outdoor play opportunities. Children are active learners who thoroughly enjoy creating their own play scenarios. For example, they role play being doctors and make informed decisions about how to treat their pretend patients. Staff skilfully engage themselves in children's play. They extend their understanding using an extensive range of descriptive words and phrases to describe what the children are doing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy, settled and demonstrate a highly positive sense of self-esteem. Children's behaviour is extremely well managed by the caring and attentive staff, who sensitively help children to understand boundaries. Children are polite, respectful and use their manners instinctively. Children's emotional well-being is given the highest priority. Recent behaviour management and autism training has increased staffs understanding and this has had an extremely positive impact on rising outcomes for children. Staff promote the importance of living healthy lifestyles. Before children start staff visit children at home. They work closely with parents to share and obtain a wealth of information, which helps them to work together to support children's care and learning from the outset.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make exceptional progress and are extremely well prepared for their move on to school and more formal education. Children are very confident and independent learners. They display excellent listening and attention skills during group activities. Children are eager to share their ideas and views with their friends, staff and visitors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537008
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10076786
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	28
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Storehouse Community Trust
Registered person unique reference number	RP537007
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01604495292

Little Fishes Pre-School re-registered in 2016. It operates from Lodge Farm Community Centre in the Lings area of Northampton. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 9.15am until 3.30pm, during term time. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff. Seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. Two members of staff hold early years teacher status.

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