

Mini Beasts

Mini Beasts Nursery Pre-School, The New Pavilion, Park Road, Warmley,
Bristol BS30 8EB



Inspection date	26 September 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The manager does not monitor staff practices well enough, or the quality of their interactions with the children. The quality of teaching is not consistent throughout the setting. Some staff do not have a suitable understanding of how to interact and engage children in learning.
- Systems for monitoring children's progress are not fully effective. Observations and assessments are not always complete and accurate enough for staff to identify gaps in children's learning. At times, activities lack challenge. Children do not make the progress of which they are capable.
- The manager and staff do not provide parents with opportunities to support their children's learning at home. Staff do not keep parents informed about the progress that their children are making.
- Self-evaluation is not accurate. The manager has not identified the weaknesses in the assessment and planning procedures. She has not taken effective action to target support to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently good level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are kind and caring. Children develop secure relationships with the staff and other children in the setting.
- Staff support children's physical skills well. For example, children learn to move their whole bodies as they copy staff to dance and do actions to music.
- Staff support children to learn about the lives and beliefs of people from backgrounds different to their own. For example, children take part in outings in the community and learn about cultural celebrations and festivals.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
monitor staff performance effectively, to identify weaknesses in their practice and target support to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently good level	16/10/2018
improve assessment and planning procedures, to ensure that interactions and activities offer children appropriate levels of challenge, help close gaps in their development and help children to make good progress in all areas of their learning.	16/10/2018

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

- strengthen partnerships with parents to keep them informed of their children's progress and to involve them in supporting their children's learning at home
- improve self-evaluation to identify weaknesses in practice and to target improvements effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, and the interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector looked at written documents, including staff files, policies, procedures, and risk assessments.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the manager, and spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the leader. She took into account the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Victoria Nicolson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff are aware of child protection issues. They suitably understand how to report concerns that they have about a child's welfare. The manager follows robust procedures to ensure that staff are safe and suitable to work with children. However, she does not monitor staff performance effectively to identify weaknesses and to target support appropriately. Some staff spend time watching children play and do not recognise how to interact and engage children in purposeful play. Self-evaluation is not accurate. The manager does not evaluate effectively, to identify weaknesses to improve the quality of provision. Parents are happy with the care that their children receive. However, they do not have the opportunities to understand their child's progress and support their child's learning at home. The manager works well with other professionals to support families and children who have special educational needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The procedures to assess and monitor children's progress are not fully effective. Staff work with parents to gain information about children's initial starting points. However, the observations and assessments that staff make do not always accurately reflect the child's exact stage of learning. The quality of teaching is not consistent. Some staff engage well with children and support their language effectively, but others are less confident in their interactions. Weaknesses to planning mean not all activities challenge and target children's next steps well enough. Children benefit from taking part during group activities. For example, older children enjoy being involved in discussions and sharing their news, and younger children develop their listening and concentration skills well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The manager and staff understand the importance of promoting healthy lifestyles. For example, children have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise, and staff provide healthy snacks. Children behave well. They listen and learn to cooperate with their peers. For example, children work well together to fill containers in the water tray. Staff recognise children's emotional needs well. They work with parents to support children to feel settled. Staff help to raise children's confidence and self-esteem. For instance, they celebrate children's achievements and praise children for their accomplishments. The environment is welcoming and well organised.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children gain some skills that will support them with the next stage of their learning. For example, older children learn to be independent at meeting their own needs, such as putting on their coats and shoes. The young children become confident with their physical abilities as they develop their early walking skills. However, due to weaknesses in assessment, planning and teaching, not all children make good progress in their learning. For example, activities are not targeted to children's individual needs, therefore children are not appropriately challenged in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551445
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10078417
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Probert, Kelly Louise
Registered person unique reference number	RP551444
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0117 961 0013

Mini Beasts registered in 2017. It operates from The New Pavilion in Warmley, Bristol. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. Seven members of staff work directly with the children. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 5 in early years, and the others hold qualifications at level 2 and 3.

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