

The Early Bird Pre-School CIC

Lime Tree Childrens Centre, West View, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY,
Hertfordshire SG6 3QN



Inspection date	3 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	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

- Staff have an excellent understanding of how to promote children's emotional attachments. Children are fully supported by extremely nurturing and attentive staff who organise themselves highly effectively to ensure all children have positive, meaningful play and learning experiences.
- Staff develop exemplary partnerships with parents. They expertly support parents to have confidence in continuing their child's learning in the home environment.
- The management team provides excellent professional development opportunities for staff. For example, recent training has helped key staff to address children's behaviour extremely well and support children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities superbly. Staff are highly responsive to the children's complex needs. Outcomes for all children are excellent.
- The manager provides all staff with regular confidential meetings to discuss their key children, their ongoing suitability and training needs. This, and regular observations of staff practice, ensures teaching has a continuously high impact on all children's learning.
- Children develop a wide-ranging understanding of themselves and others in the community. For example, they visit older people in the community to share special events.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore and investigate information technology even further to broaden their already excellent understanding of the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play and staff interactions with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to all the members of staff at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records, records of staff suitability checks, and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with several parents and took their views into account.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff complete safeguarding training and demonstrate an excellent understanding of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Thorough recruitment procedures and initial training help to ensure staff are eminently suitable to carry out their responsibilities. Staff foster superior partnerships with other agencies and providers, including the local schools. This actively promotes a high level of consistent, continuous support for children's care and learning. Staff use excellent strategies to promote children's readiness for school. The manager is highly motivated in evaluating the provision. As part of self-evaluation, she has identified that there is the opportunity to increase children's awareness of technology and enhance their exploration and investigation skills to an even higher level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff working with younger children support their language and communication skills exceptionally well. For example, during all activities, staff use a first-class range of questioning techniques to enhance children's vocabulary, and thinking and problem-solving skills even further. Staff encourage and enthuse children as they become engrossed in their imaginary play. For instance, children mix mud, cut real pumpkins and add leaves and twigs to make their own concoctions at the mud kitchen. Staff provide high levels of support as children explore mathematical concepts. Older children compare size and count as they engage in daily play. For example, they count the number of nails and screws they hammer and insert into large and small pumpkins, confidently comparing the different sizes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate exceptionally positive behaviour. They show high levels of cooperation and respect for one another and are emotionally secure. Children competently take manageable risks in their play. They expertly handle real screwdrivers and hammers when nailing and driving screws into pumpkins. Children understand how to keep themselves and others safe. For example, staff invite members of the ambulance service to show children what they do and teach them how to keep themselves safe in and out of the home.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points. Younger children have high levels of confidence, make independent choices and engage well in new activities. Older children develop high levels of empathy for living things as they talk about handling ladybirds carefully so that they don't hurt them. Children are gaining excellent skills for school readiness.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536671
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10076754
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare 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	36
Name of registered person	Early Bird Pre-School CIC
Registered person unique reference number	RP536670
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07907 860991

The Early Bird Pre-School CIC registered in 2016. The setting employs 9 members of staff. Of these, 7 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 and 6. The setting opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. There is a breakfast club from 8am to 8.30am. Opening times are 8.30am or 9.00am to 11.30am. There is mindfulness session held at 12.15pm – 12.30pm for children that are staying all day. The lunch club runs from 11.30am to 12.15pm. The afternoon session operates from 12.30pm to 3.30pm every day. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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