

# Little Owls Pre-School

Icknield Primary School, Birdsfoot Lane, LUTON LU3 2JB



<b>Inspection date</b>	15 October 2018
Previous inspection date	11 May 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Since the last inspection, the management and staff team remain committed to continuous improvement and they strive for excellence in their work with children and their parents. The well-established and highly experienced staff team work exceptionally well together, with the children and their parents.
- The staff team are fully reflective of their practice and make highly effective changes. These changes significantly contribute to children's and staff's safety and ensure the best possible use of the space and resources that are available.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported exceptionally well. Staff provide one-to-one supervision as required. They make adaptations to the activities and this results in all children being able to enjoy and take part.
- Staff always use children's interests and identified next steps in learning to plan the activities. This results in children being excited and enthusiastic to take part. Staff are highly skilled in engaging children during their play and children show sustained interest in stories, construction and messy play.
- Children's safety is given the highest priority. They are very well supervised and are supported by staff to learn about the potential risks involved in their play.
- Parents are extremely happy with the pre-school. They comment about how wonderfully supportive the staff are, helping them to settle their children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend older and more able children's deeper thinking through further discussions during activities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the pre-school manager, the deputy manager and with two members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and also took account of written feedback provided.

### Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team have established robust systems for recruitment and ongoing checks on staff's suitability. Management are fully committed to valuing the staff and provide them with excellent opportunities for their professional development. Supervision and monitoring of staff practice is highly effective. This, along with training, contributes to staff's confidence levels being raised significantly through the increase in their knowledge and understanding. The pre-school makes highly effective use of extra funding to help children attend and make the best progress they can. Children who speak English as an additional language are ably supported to develop confidence and this helps them rapidly become familiar with the daily routines.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children receive excellent, inspirational teaching from all staff and the activities are fun and interesting. Children explore wet sand outside, they feel the texture, watching with fascination as water fills the holes they make. Children make marks using shaving foam, using their hands to swirl it around. Staff extend children's vocabulary. They use descriptive words, they extend the interest and learning by making suggestions and they provide sensitive reassurance for those who are less confident to take part in messy play. Children's learning is significantly increased through the staff's highly positive involvement during stories for example. Children become enthralled, eagerly joining in. Observation and assessment is accurate, used very well for future planning and to identify children's next steps in learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children very clearly demonstrate that they feel happy and relaxed in the pre-school. They are very confident, self-assured and they develop secure attachments to the staff, initiating conversations and enjoying jokes together. Children behave extremely well. Staff are excellent role models, they speak to children clearly and with respect, and children work very well together. The very consistent and committed approach from all staff ensures children with specific needs have a full role with their friends at pre-school. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. They can choose to play outside, they access drinking water independently and they enjoy healthy snacks.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress from their individual starting points. They develop independence, confidence and make friendships. These are skills that help them be very well-prepared for starting school when the time comes.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY413535
<b>Local authority</b>	Luton
<b>Inspection number</b>	10071031
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	64
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Langford, Elaine Margaret
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP514347
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 May 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	07854 294 731

Little Owls Pre-school re-registered in 2010 and is managed privately. The pre-school employs ten members of childcare staff. All hold early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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