

Little Angels Pre-School

Bennetts End Community Centre, Leys Road, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,
Hertfordshire HP3 9LZ



Inspection date	11 December 2018
Previous inspection date	8 January 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

This provision is good

- The provider is committed to developing the pre-school, implementing focused action plans to improve the quality of care and learning.
- Staff provide a well-resourced and enabling environment that actively supports children to solve problems, make choices in their play, and lead their own learning.
- Staff understand how children learn. They interact with children throughout their play, demonstrating, modelling and asking questions to support their developing skills.
- Children behave well. Staff are positive role models for children and help them to understand how their actions impact on others. They praise children for their achievements. This helps to promote children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Staff have developed effective working relationships with parents. They provide them with regular updates on their child's progress.
- The newly introduced assessment system is in its infancy, and not all staff are fully confident in using this to assess and plan for children's progress.
- Communication with staff and parents is not always effective in providing clear messages about future plans and improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance communication with staff and parents so that all are aware of any changes planned to improve the quality of the provision
- continue to embed the new assessment system for children's learning and development so that it is used effectively by all staff to help children make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager, who is also the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at a range of documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Lorraine Sunter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know what action to take if they are concerned about the welfare of a child in their care. They demonstrate a good understanding of child protection issues. Policies and procedures are in place to help ensure the safety of children, including those relating to the use of mobile phones. The provider follows robust recruitment procedures for staff. Support for staff to improve their teaching practice has been introduced. They have access to regular training that enables them to build on their skills and knowledge. Through regular meetings with the provider, staff identify where they can develop further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They complete regular observations of children during play and use these to identify their next steps in learning. They use this information to plan exciting activities based on children's needs and interests. Children develop their imaginations well. They plan and enthusiastically make toys in Santa's workshop and seek staff out to talk about how the toys are delivered. Staff skilfully interact with them, introducing new vocabulary and ideas into their play. Children are inquisitive and eager to learn. Staff promote children's cooperation and social skills during activities, such as working together to build high towers with building blocks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled. They form strong relationships with staff and build friendships with other children. They are keen to help each other and solve problems together. Children help each other to balance on blocks during outdoor play and negotiate how to move around. Staff are good role models. Children use good manners and listen to instruction well. Staff help children understand how to keep themselves safe and provide clear explanations why. Children have high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff praise them regularly and value their achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress for their age and stage of development. They confidently learn key skills in readiness for the next stage in their education, such as school. They develop high levels of independence. Children choose what they want to play with and tidy away toys by themselves. They recognise and draw shapes in their play when using craft materials to make decorations and when using the magnetic board. They use a wide range of vocabulary to imaginatively describe what they are doing. Older children recognise their names that have been added to various activities. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well by staff and develop a good level of English through their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY361912
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10061135
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Hart, Margaret Ann
Registered person unique reference number	RP515052
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2016
Telephone number	07989 346814

Little Angels Pre-School registered in 2007. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds level 4. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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