

# Little Monsters Childcare

38 Elmgrove Road East, Hardwicke, Gloucestershire GL2 4PY



## Inspection date

28 February 2019

Previous inspection date

15 March 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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 manager leads a dedicated staff team. They have made significant improvements since the last inspection to address weaknesses. For example, the manager has introduced a new complaints procedure and has implemented a robust recruitment system to ensure all staff are suitable.
- All children behave well. They develop good social skills and play together harmoniously. They learn to cooperate with each other and overcome disagreements.
- The well-qualified staff support children to make good progress in their learning. They use children's ideas and interests well to support their planning for children's individual next steps in learning.
- Children and their families build secure attachments with their key persons, who take the time to get to know them well and ensure their individual needs are met. This helps children settle quickly and become self-assured and confident learners.
- Parents speak highly of the setting. They explain how they are kept well informed of what their child is learning and that their children are very settled and love attending.
- On occasions, staff miss opportunities that arise to support children's early writing skills.
- Staff do not always provide rich, varied and imaginative outdoor learning experiences to support children who prefer to learn outside.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills
- develop opportunities for children to easily access the outdoor area, to support children who prefer to learn outdoors.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the management team, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and through written feedback provided.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the staff, confirmation of staff training, recruitment procedures and policies. She looked at a selection of children's records, and discussed safeguarding procedures and the self-evaluation process.

**Inspector**  
Tracey Cook

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have received appropriate training to secure their understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They are vigilant about monitoring children's welfare and take prompt, appropriate action if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Ratios are maintained and children are supervised well. Staff have regular supervision and appraisals with the manager to discuss their performance, and benefit from regular training and team meetings. This has a positive impact on children's ongoing experiences at the setting and helps maintain continuous improvement. The manager effectively tracks the progress of children and quickly narrows any gaps in learning.

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

Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning and provide a broad range of stimulating activities for children of all ages, which motivates their play. For instance, staff help toddlers piece together a train track, which helps develop their small-muscle skills. Staff interact positively with children and make effective use of opportunities to challenge their thinking. For instance, as older children make dough, staff encourage them to think about what will happen to the dough as they add water and colouring. Staff place a strong focus on building children's speaking and listening skills effectively. For instance, small-group times enable older children to hear and recall stories, to help support their language and early reading skills.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children appear happy and motivated to learn as they arrive at the setting. Staff are good role models and treat children with kindness and respect. In turn, children learn how to value the differing needs of their friends and develop good independence and social skills. For instance, when younger children notice that their friends do not have chairs when making an ambulance, they go and help them find one and encourage them to join in. Staff promote children's physical skills well. For instance, they teach children to move to music and show them how to march around the room. Staff promote children's awareness of how to keep themselves safe. For instance, they remind children to stop, look and listen when they cross roads.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Older children use their imagination to recreate events based on their own first-hand experiences. For example, children self-select play mobile phones and pretend to play games and talk to their friends using the devices. Babies interact well with staff as they investigate books and show an interest in turning the pages. Children clearly have fun and genuinely enjoy the warm interactions with staff. They develop valuable skills for their future learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY535834
<b>Local authority</b>	Gloucestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10089363
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 7
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	57
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Watkins, Christine Ann
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910717
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 March 2018
<b>Telephone number</b>	07502206109

Little Monsters Childcare registered in 2016 and is located in the Hardwicke area of Gloucester. The setting employs 10 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications, including one who holds a qualification at level 5. The setting operates from Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 7.30am until 5pm on Friday. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

