

Inspection of Little Gems Day Nursery

Partnership House, East And West Lodge, East Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7EQ

Inspection date: 30 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are very confident communicators. Younger children stand up in front of their friends to sing a nursery rhyme on their own. Older children tell staff and other children about books that parents read to them at home. Children show positive relationships with staff. For example, they give them cuddles when they arrive and leave the nursery. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure.

Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour. Children learn to share. Older children work together to sweep up soil off a table and say, 'It is teamwork.' Children value the praise they receive from staff, such as a 'high five'. They behave well.

Staff know children well and provide them with unique opportunities that encourage their independence. They ask them to take off their socks and shoes on their own. Children happily let staff paint the bottom of their feet. They say that the paint 'tickles'. Children have fun and laugh with staff.

The management team and staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities effectively. They put targeted plans in place to promote their individual needs.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff use the curriculum to enhance opportunities for children and to help them to be prepared for their next stage in learning. For example, they consistently promote personal hygiene routines, such as handwashing. Staff help children to learn to care for their teeth to promote oral hygiene.
- Staff share information with parents about children's interests and what they need to learn next. This helps them to know their children's achievements and how they can continue to support them at home. Parents comment positively about staff. They say that they are 'friendly and professional'. However, staff do not consistently share information about children's achievements with all other early years settings they also attend, to promote consistency in their learning.
- The manager evaluates the effectiveness of the nursery. She gathers the views of staff and parents to help identify changes to the experiences children receive. Recent improvements to the environment offer children more opportunities for focused learning. This contributes to children being motivated to learn.
- The manager offers staff appraisal and supervision meetings to discuss their role and ongoing training needs. Staff extend their professional development. They attend training courses that help to deepen their knowledge of how to support older children's literacy skills. Children learn the sounds that represent letters of the alphabet.

- Staff support children's communication and language skills. They sing songs and nursery rhymes with children in all the rooms at the nursery. They occasionally leave off the end of sentences for children to finish. This helps them to develop their speaking skills. When staff speak to older children, they introduce new words and explain their meaning, such as 'encyclopaedia' and 'Jupiter'. This contributes to children's understanding.
- Staff make sure children have access to the large outdoor area where they take and manage risks in their play. Younger children push themselves along with their legs on ride-on toys, which helps to develop their muscles. Older children jump from one wooden stepping stone to another. This helps them to develop their balance and coordination.
- Staff know children well and are aware of their interests and the experiences they receive at home. For example, when they know parents are expecting a new baby, they provide resources such as toy dolls and a baby bath for children to use in their play. This helps to prepare children for the changes they will face, which promotes their emotional well-being. However, staff do not consistently make the most of their interactions with children to extend their learning and enable them to make the best possible progress.
- Staff actively promote positive behaviour. They give children plenty of praise and encouragement. Staff encourage children to persevere with tasks. For example, staff tell children to 'keep trying' when they struggle to fit together pieces of a toy train track. They offer children suggestions and ideas. Children develop a can-do attitude to learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager regularly checks that staff's knowledge of child protection is up to date. For example, they ask them questions about possible signs of abuse. The manager and staff understand their responsibility to promote children's welfare. They know to work with other agencies to keep children safe. Staff complete risk assessments of the environment. They count children when they move them to different areas in the nursery, such as when they go outside and to the dining room. This contributes to children's safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- share information consistently about children's achievements with all other early years settings they also attend, to promote consistency in their learning
- make the most of all opportunities that arise through interactions with children to extend their learning, so they make the best possible progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551370
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10141979
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Barns Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531814
Telephone number	01526861367
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Gems Day Nursery registered in 2017 and is situated in Sleaford. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold early years qualifications at level 2, 17 hold qualifications at level 3, and one holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- A meeting was held between the inspector, nursery manager and safeguarding leader. The inspector reviewed a sample of documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

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.

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/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2020