

# Inspection of Leapfrogs Trust

Old Haywards Courtyard, East Street, Crediton, Devon EX17 3AX

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Inspection date: 18 February 2020

**Overall effectiveness** **Good**

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The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Outstanding

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children are welcomed warmly by caring staff and they quickly engage in play with their friends. The staff support children's emotional well-being and this helps them to become confident and resilient. Children feel safe and secure in the calm and nurturing environment the staff provide. They are motivated to learn and staff continually support them to build on what they know and can do. Children participate in the daily routine, listen and respond well to staff and behave very well.

Children benefit from a range of activities that support their development in all areas of learning. For example, they enjoy numerous opportunities to count, develop their physical skills and use their imagination throughout the day. Well-trained staff support children's language development effectively, for example by providing ample opportunities for children to talk at mealtimes, which are lovely social occasions.

Children learn how to manage their personal needs and to make healthy choices. However, when playing outside, they have less opportunity to learn about keeping themselves safe. Overall, children make good progress at this setting and are supported well for the next stage in their learning.

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

- Children's communication and language development is a particular strength of the setting. Staff talk to children throughout the day and are excellent role models for speaking and listening. They ask children a lot of questions and give them time to think and respond. This gives children frequent opportunities to talk and tell staff what they know. For example, they talk about what a seed needs to grow into an apple tree.
- Staff regularly share stories with the children and then use these to build on their learning. For example, after reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', the children take part in counting and colour-sorting activities based on the story and are able to recall parts of the story as they play.
- The children demonstrate that they understand the expectations of the setting and this is reflected in their positive behaviour and attitudes. They respond promptly to the adults and they take turns and share resources with their friends. Staff support them to be kind and have good manners.
- Staff are well trained and the manager ensures they are supported effectively. The staff report high levels of well-being and their enjoyment of working in the setting. This results in a well-established team which is passionate about improving outcomes for children.
- Parents comment positively on the setting. Staff keep them informed about their

children's progress verbally and through parents' evenings and their children's development files. However, staff do not consistently inform parents of the activities their children take part in day to day, to help them support their children's learning at home.

- The manager has successfully led the setting for a long period of time and continues to be passionate about the children in her care. She ensures that all children receive extra support when they need it and uses additional funding to benefit them. This results in all children making good progress in all areas of learning and being well prepared for school.
- Children have access to a large outdoor space where they develop their physical skills. For instance, they learn to manoeuvre bikes, trikes and climbing frames skilfully. However, staff do not always remind children how to stay safe when running around, which results in some minor accidents.
- Staff help children to make healthy choices at mealtimes and to think about the effects of exercise on their bodies. For instance, they talk about what foods are healthy for them and pay attention to their heart rates after their morning 'wake and shake' sessions.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and her staff team have a robust understanding of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They confidently recognise symptoms of abuse and are aware of the reporting requirements. This includes their duty to report any concern regarding the 'Prevent' strategy and their understanding of what to do if they ever had concerns about a colleague. The recruitment processes in place ensure the suitability of staff. The premises are safe and secure.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- support children to manage risks more appropriately to avoid accidents, particularly when playing outside
- develop ways to engage with parents to keep them informed of the activities the children take part in, to support and develop children's learning further at home.

## Setting details

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| <b>Unique reference number</b>                   | 105876  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                           | Devon   |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                         | 10125980  |
| <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>                     | 2 to 8  |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                    | 40  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                | 96  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                 | The Leapfrog Trust  |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b> | RP521268  |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                          | 01363 776474  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>               | 13 August 2015  |

## Information about this early years setting

Leapfrogs Trust registered in 2001. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year, closing for two weeks at Christmas. The out-of-school club is open from 8am to 8.50am and 3.30pm to 6pm during term time, and from 8am until 6pm during the holidays. The manager has early years and management qualifications, and another staff member has completed a degree in early years education. All other staff have suitable early years qualifications and there are two apprentices. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Den Russell

## Inspection activities

- The inspector had a learning walk with the manager to understand how the provision and curriculum are organised.
- The nursery manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector and the manager had a meeting to discuss the provision and reviewed a sample of documents, including evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

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.

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