

Inspection of Little Lions Preschool

Empower Centre, 47 Botley Drive, Havant, Hampshire PO9 4PJ

Inspection date: 28 February 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Managers have not made sufficient improvements to the quality of teaching since the last inspection. In addition, the provider has failed to meet a number of requirements of the early years foundation stage. This has a negative impact on children's well-being and learning.

Children, including those in receipt of additional funding and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), do not have access to quality interactions or well-considered activities, that meet their individual learning needs. Staff do not accurately consider what children already know and what they need to learn next. For example, staff engage children in a planned activity, matching sounds to pictures. Children were unable to fully contribute as they did not know animals such as 'dove' and 'cuckoo'. Staff do not engage all children in purposeful play. Some children wander around the setting and go for periods of time without any interaction from staff.

Children show curiosity in their play. However, staff do not use this as an opportunity to expand children's learning. At times, this leads to a loss of interest and concentration. Children generally behave well. Staff remind children of the rules. For example, to use their 'kind hands' and 'walking feet'. Children show kindness towards each other and are learning to share.

Children enter the setting confidently and engage in self-selected play. They hold secure attachments to the staff and seek comfort when needed. Staff respond to children with care and warmth. However, the breach in the safeguarding and welfare requirements means that the safety of children is not prioritised.

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

- Managers have not accurately identified weaknesses in teaching and practice. This means that gaps in learning are not challenged swiftly and appropriately. Regular staff monitoring and supervision processes are in place, which staff feel are supportive. However, these are not used effectively to identify and address weaknesses in teaching. This has an impact on the progress children make.
- Staff have improved knowledge in some areas since their last inspection. For example, they are able to identify when children may be at risk of wider safeguarding issues. However, managers have not been proactive in providing staff with the support they need to improve their skills in priority areas, such as interaction and children's early communication development. This contributes to the lack of improvement made to the quality of teaching.
- The resources available for children, do not fully promote or extend learning in all areas. For example, during outdoor play, staff do not provide enough sand

for children to make sandcastles when engaged in an activity. Insufficient equipment in the role-play area, meant that children were not able to extend their interests and fully engage in imaginary play. However, they do have access to opportunities to extend their physical development. Children display enjoyment as they climb, run and transport large stones in the garden.

- Children's developing communication and thinking skills are not supported sufficiently well. Staff make some attempts to role model language. For example, staff repeat unclear words back to children correctly and use clear single words for those at an early stage of development. However, this is inconsistent. In addition, staff do not utilise opportunities, such as snack times and planned activities, to extend children's vocabulary and challenge their thinking further.
- Managers do not have a clear or accurate overview of what they want children to learn. They do not use assessment fully to prioritise learning in all areas. For example, planned next steps for some children do not reflect significant gaps in their development. Progress checks completed for children aged two, do not identify delays in learning that need addressing. This means children, including those with SEND, do not receive the support they need quickly enough.
- Risk assessments are not effective in keeping children safe. Managers and staff fail to identify risks and take appropriate action to minimise these swiftly. For example, children are able to access unsuitable items within the environment. In addition, children are not supervised appropriately when playing on indoor climbing equipment. This means children are at risk of potential harm.
- Partnership working is variable. Managers are not persistent in establishing two-way communication with professionals that are already involved with children. This includes early intervention for children with SEND. In addition, managers fail to keep professionals up to date on issues relating to children's welfare. This significantly impacts on the progress that children are able to make and their safety. Staff and managers work closely with parents and provide regular updates on their child's development. Parents report positively on the care their children receive.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff receive regular safeguarding training and are able to explain the indicators of possible abuse. However, they do not put their knowledge into practice. For example, staff with safeguarding responsibilities do not report all child welfare concerns within appropriate timescales. Managers and staff do not assess potential risk fully. They fail to identify, remove, or put appropriate measures in place, to minimise potential risks that could cause injury. This puts children at risk of harm.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure safeguarding policies and procedures are adhered to by all staff and concerns relating to children's safety and welfare are monitored, recorded and reported to the appropriate agencies without delay	14/03/2022
ensure the setting's special educational needs coordinator has a clear understanding of how to fulfil the role and meet the needs of children who attend	14/03/2022
ensure monitoring and supervision arrangements for staff, including managers, are effective in providing the support, coaching and training that staff need to fulfil their roles and improve their practice	14/03/2022
strengthen risk assessment processes to ensure these are effective in identifying and minimising potential hazards and risks to children.	14/03/2022

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure staff provide good quality learning experiences, and effective support and interaction for all children, including those with SEND, to help them make good progress, particularly in their communication and language skills	04/04/2022
ensure that staff use their assessment effectively to tailor activities and teaching to meet children's individual learning needs	04/04/2022

ensure assessments, including progress checks for children aged two, are effective at identifying potential gaps in development, so that support can be provided at the earliest opportunity.	14/03/2022
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Setting details

Unique reference number	EY557605
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10203754
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 at time of inspection	1 to 5
Total number of places	41
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Carr, Rebecca
Registered person unique reference number	RP901753
Telephone number	
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2021

Information about this early years setting

Little Lions Preschool registered in 2018 and is located in Havant, Hampshire. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff. All of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Paula Sissons

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the pre-school and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a listening activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.

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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