

Inspection of Little Explorers Pre-school

Westerleigh Manor Hall, Henfield Road, Coalpit Heath, BRISTOL BS36 2TG

Inspection date: 16 March 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in a nurturing environment at this excellent and well-established pre-school. Staff cultivate strong professional relationships with both the children and their families, fostering a warm and supportive atmosphere of care and connection. As a result, children feel a deep sense of belonging, which contributes to their overall well-being. Children are confident and thoroughly enjoy their time here. They deeply engage in role play in an extremely cosy home corner where they imitate everyday life. With great enthusiasm, children practise their fine motor skills by manipulating dough and using real herbs to create imaginary models.

The manager and staff highly regard each child as a unique individual and strive to foster an inclusive environment. They collaborate with external agencies to create individual learning plans for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), providing them with swift, targeted and highly effective support tailored to their specific needs. As a result, children with SEND are able to succeed in their learning goals. Children feel exceptionally safe and protected in the learning environment, making independent choices and enjoying cooperative play with their peers. Staff serve as excellent role models, providing children with plenty of praise and encouragement. Their positive attitude and behaviour inspire children to be kind and respectful to others.

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

- The manager inspires and passionately supports the staff in delivering an ambitious, inclusive and interesting curriculum. The staff are exceptional practitioners who hold themselves to extremely high expectations throughout the provision. The manager provides excellent support to the staff, enabling them to reflect on and evaluate their teaching and interactions with children and families.
- The manager and staff excel at supporting children's communication and language development. They create a language-rich environment and use a programme with diverse activities to help children learn and communicate effectively. The activities promote older children's literacy skills. Children also engage in turn-taking and social interaction during these activities to further enhance their communication skills. The excellent teaching makes older children confident communicators and ready for the next stage of their education. Additionally, staff teach younger children sign language and introduce new vocabulary through fun songs to build their confidence and encourage communication and interaction with peers.
- Staff skilfully introduce mathematical concepts to children from a very early age through everyday interactions and activities. For example, when singing 'Happy Birthday' to a peer, they assist the children in counting and guessing the number

of candles needed for the cake. They encourage children to compare their age with their parents' age and use mathematical language to make comparisons. Children also participate in various activities that challenge their abilities to match numbers with quantities, further developing their problem-solving skills and numerical comprehension.

- Staff give top priority to the successful development of children's self-care skills and independence throughout the setting. They offer children sufficient time and space to concentrate on tasks and persevere independently. For instance, during morning snack time, children of all ages wash their hands, select and cut their own fruit and clean up after themselves by washing their plate and putting it away. Staff assist younger children when necessary and acknowledge and celebrate children's accomplishments and progress. This helps children experience a positive impact on their self-awareness and self-esteem.
- Staff facilitate young children's development of emotional literacy by guiding them to confidently express their thoughts and feelings while recognising the impact of their actions on others. To improve children's understanding of various emotions, staff utilise resources such as mirrors.
- Children cultivate a positive outlook towards the world around them, embracing visits to their school and local church with great delight. Along the way, they gain an understanding of the vital roles community helpers play, such as the admirable police officers. This approach fosters a sense of appreciation for their community and instils values of gratitude and respect in children.
- Staff provide valuable learning opportunities, both indoors and outdoors, catering to children's individual learning styles. The outdoor environment offers physical activities that enhance children's physical skills, including climbing and balancing.
- The manager and staff receive high praise from parents for their support and dedication, especially towards children with SEND. Parents feel highly involved in their children's learning and development, and they appreciate being well informed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager creates a strong culture of safeguarding. All staff have a secure understanding of their role and responsibility in protecting children from harm. Staff know precisely what to do if they are worried about a child's welfare or about the behaviour of a colleague. Children learn how to confidently manage risks for themselves. For example, they follow staff's instructions on how to use the small knives carefully while preparing the snack. Staff ensure that the environment is safe and secure, and hazards are minimised. Staff supervise children effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492319
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10280811
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	H Moorefield Limited Trading as Little Explorers Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP534815
Telephone number	07854655978
Date of previous inspection	28 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

Little Explorers Pre-school registered in 2015. It is based in Manor Hall in Coalpit Heath, Bristol. The pre-school operates from Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 3pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff, four of whom hold an appropriate qualification in childcare at level 3. Two other members of staff are training towards an appropriate qualification in childcare at level 3. The manager holds early years teacher status and there is also one member of staff who is unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Stella Orfanidou

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the pre-school received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the setting and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a communication and language activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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