

Inspection of Lottie's Pre-School

38 Letchworth Drive, BROMLEY BR2 9BE

Inspection date: 18 April 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children happily arrive at the pre-school and confidently leave their parents at the door. They are keen to find their name on the photo tree, which is used for self-registration. This supports a sense of belonging and feeling part of the group. Staff greet children warmly, and they quickly settle to their chosen activity. Children enjoy a range of stimulating learning experiences, which enables them to make secure progress from their starting points. Younger children enjoy multi-sensory experiences, such as exploring glitter, sand and paint. They enjoy filling containers and show perseverance. Staff are nurturing towards young children's needs and help them to express their thoughts and ideas. Children show that they have close bonds with staff when they want to sit on staff's laps to enjoy a story together.

Older children form friendships and are able to work collaboratively together as they navigate fitting shapes into sorters. There are many opportunities to support children's early mathematical development. Children spontaneously count and use mathematical concepts during their play. This is supported extremely well by staff. For example, children have interesting discussions about jugs of sand being 'a quarter full' and know this is less than half.

Overall, children behave well, and they understand expectations, with the support of staff. Children respond to staff signals when it is time to listen and to help with tidying up. Staff reinforce positive messages, and children beam with pride when they are called 'superstar helpers'. Children are supported to express themselves and manage their feelings. They learn important concepts, such as sharing and taking turns.

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

- The provider and deputy currently provide effective leadership while a new manager is being recruited. The team works well together to provide children with good-quality care and education. Staff feel valued and supported. They are encouraged in their professional development and receive a range of training opportunities.
- Parents are exceptionally happy with the care provided to their children. They say their children enjoy attending and that staff are 'fantastic'. Parents comment that they like listening to their children sing songs they have learned at the pre-school. They particularly value the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with key persons, and they know planned targets to support children's development.
- Staff support parents to extend their children's learning at home. They have recently introduced a book lending library, which is very popular. Children love choosing books to take home to share. They develop a love for books, which

supports their language and communication skills.

- Children benefit from regularly playing outdoors and being in the fresh air. Young children enjoy experimenting with sound as they crash and bang pots on the 'music wall'. They laugh as they listen to the loud sounds they create. Older children expertly use the 'water wall'. They skilfully pour water down piping, taking great care not to spill any.
- Staff have attended recent training to provide further support for children who are learning to speak English as an additional language. There is a good focus on building children's vocabulary in partnership with parents. However, sometimes, quieter children do not always get the same level of interaction with staff as more confident children. This means that, on occasion, quieter children are not encouraged to fully engage to maximise their learning.
- Staff work closely with parents to support the progress of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). They recognise the importance of partnership working to understand the needs of individual children. The provider has recently identified an experienced member of staff to further support the needs of children with SEND and to share knowledge.
- Children learn to be independent by, for example, managing their toileting needs and putting on their own coats to go outside to play. These skills prepare them for their next stage of learning, such as their eventual move on to school. Children know when they are thirsty and independently access their water bottles. However, there are limited opportunities to teach children about the importance of healthy eating.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff understand their responsibilities to keep children safe. They know the possible signs that a child may be at risk. Staff understand the correct procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff's knowledge of safeguarding is tested during frequent spot checks to ensure their knowledge is up to date. Risk assessment arrangements are effective to ensure the environment is safe and secure. Children also learn to take responsibility for their own safety. For example, they are given gentle reminders about not running indoors so they do not hurt themselves or others.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to provide consistent and high-quality interactions with quieter, less confident children to maximise their learning and to help them remain fully engaged
- make better use of everyday routines to help teach children about the

importance of healthy eating.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488313
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	10284895
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Lottie's Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907695
Telephone number	02082901900
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2017

Information about this early years setting

Lottie's Pre-School registered in 2015. It operates from a converted store in Bromley. The pre-school operates between 8am and 4.15pm, on Mondays to Fridays, during school term time only. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are six staff, including the provider. Five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Laura Brewer

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 provider and the inspector completed a learning walk together. The provider explained how the curriculum is organised for both younger and older children.
- The inspector observed teaching practices and considered the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders, staff, children and parents.
- The provider and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector reviewed some of the setting's documentation, including accident records and the safeguarding policy.

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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