

Inspection of Little Druids Nursery

Minton Distribution Park, London Road, Amesbury, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 7RT

Inspection date: 9 January 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy to arrive at the nursery, where they are warmly welcomed by staff. The key-person system has been developed, and children form close bonds with staff, who are caring and kind. Settling-in sessions for new children and parents are flexible. Staff work closely with parents to tailor settling-in visits. They find out information about children as soon as possible, including what they like and dislike. This supports children's emotional well-being.

Staff build on what they know about the children. They provide learning experiences that excite and engage children in learning. For example, staff encourage older children to identify shapes during a food-cutting activity, while babies and younger children are eager to explore a range of sensory materials. They are inquisitive as they explore the rice play alongside each other. Staff plan and assess children's learning well, which helps children to make good progress in their learning.

Staff have high expectations of children. They help them make relationships with their friends and overcome conflict. For example, children want to play with the same toys in the role-play area. At first, they struggle to share. Staff model how they can overcome this by offering suggestions and ways to play together. Children listen and respond positively. Parents speak highly of the communication they receive from the setting. Staff share children's next steps of development with parents to further their learning at home.

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

- The manager has developed an ambitious curriculum for children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). She is clear about what she wants children to learn while they are at the nursery. The manager and staff place a high focus on supporting children's communication and language skills as part of the curriculum. They use core songs and books throughout the nursery to help children become familiar with sounds, words and rhymes. Staff use all opportunities to involve children in singing and storytelling, and children have a clear love of stories and songs.
- The manager makes sure that staff understand how to deliver the curriculum. Staff enable children to remember and build on what they already know. For example, when children are making play dough, staff remind them of their previous learning. Children delight in being able to remember important knowledge and processes.
- There are many opportunities for children to develop their independence. Toddlers and pre-school children help themselves to snack and use forks and spoons at mealtimes. Children understand the importance of good hygiene

practices. However, some routines and transitions of the day are not always as well planned or supported by staff. Therefore, at times, children are left waiting for longer periods of time, and staff are not able to make the most of the learning opportunities.

- Staff know children's likes, dislikes, what they can do and what they need to learn next. They tailor children's learning well when inside. However, learning outside is not always as effective. For example, at times, staff do not organise the outdoor environment to capture children's interests, leaving some children wandering with little engagement and focus.
- Children with SEND are well supported and make good progress. Staff implement individual educational plans that help to close gaps in learning. They use advice and guidance from external professionals effectively. The special educational needs coordinator uses her experience and knowledge to act quickly and puts appropriate support in place.
- Children are reminded of the setting's rules, such as using their 'walking feet' and 'being kind' to their friends. Strategies for managing behaviour are in place to support staff when children's behaviour escalates. Staff use a consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. This means that children receive clear messages about the expectations of the setting.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Parents say that the manager and staff are friendly and welcoming, and they regularly share information with parents about their children's day and what they are learning. Parents report that their children are happy and well supported with their care and emotional needs. The manager provides parents with information about upcoming events and home learning opportunities, as well as providing parents with information about other services that they can access to support them and their families.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the organisation of transitional routines to better support children's individual needs and learning outcomes
- further develop the outdoor environment to capture all children's interests and increase their engagement and focus.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2519685
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10282766
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 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Little Druids Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2519684
Telephone number	01980 669575
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2023

Information about this early years setting

Little Druids Nursery registered in 2019 and is located in Amesbury, Wiltshire. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, all year round. There are 11 staff, including the manager. Of these, six hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. Two staff are currently undertaking training at level 3. The nursery offers funded education sessions for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marie Swindells

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued 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 and discussed the early years curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector interacted with staff and took account of their views.
- A joint observation was completed with the inspector.
- A leadership and management meeting was held with the manager.
- The inspector viewed parent testimonials as part of the inspection process.

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 2024