

The Island - Little Herons Childcare



Wootton Cp School, Church Road, Wootton Bridge, RYDE, Isle of Wight, PO33 4PT

Inspection date	16 February 2015
Previous inspection date	1 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children are confident and enthusiastic learners. They are highly motivated and independent, and use resources imaginatively to support their learning and play.
- Children make exceptional progress because staff offer them excellent opportunities for learning. The management team effectively monitors the provision and staff to ensure the very best outcomes for children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Staff involve parents in the care and learning of their children, which ensures continuity in children's learning and development.
- Staff give safety a very high priority. They identify and minimise hazards to children, and teach children how to promote their own safety.
- Staff get to know children and their families extremely well. They take great care to build strong attachments with all children, which ensures that children feel extremely confident and secure in the setting.
- The exceptional manager and well-qualified staff provide high-quality care and learning for children. They rigorously check all aspects of the setting, which enables them to clearly target and strengthen practices to maximise the outcomes for children.
- Robust partnerships with other professionals are highly effective in providing for children's needs, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This ensures children make excellent progress, and transfers in and out of the setting are exceptionally well organised, to promote continuity of care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's excellent communication skills further by extending the use of descriptive words in everyday play opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the owner.
- The inspector carried out observations of activities, including staff's interaction with children, in each room and in the outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of practitioners working in the setting, the provider's self - evaluation systems, complaints log and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Julie Dale

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Managers and staff have an extremely secure knowledge of the requirements and an excellent understanding of how children learn through their play. Staff have very high expectations of themselves and the children, and provide a wealth of challenging and imaginative learning experiences. As a result of training, staff promote children's speaking and listening skills extremely well. This means that children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities make rapid progress in their communication and language skills. However, staff occasionally miss some opportunities to extend children's descriptive language. Teaching inspires children to become highly motivated and independent learners. For example, staff provide children with the opportunity to experiment with sand and water encouraging them to make choices about the texture they want the sand to be as they make models. Staff use the outdoor areas creatively to engage children in their learning and encourage exploration, imaginative activity, and independence in an exciting environment. For example, they create dens in the youngest children's outdoor area for them to explore and investigate.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children show a clear knowledge of how to keep healthy as they wash hands before eating and recognise healthy food choices. Children develop excellent self-help skills. For example, they find their own coats and shoes before going outside to play, which they put on with minimal help from staff. A calm and harmonious atmosphere supports children's learning and staff diffuse any minor disputes very quickly. Children get on well together because they know what staff expect of them, learn to take turns and value one another. Staff skilfully support children to understand the potential impact of their actions on others. Staff acknowledge and celebrate children's positive behaviour and achievements, enthusiastically and consistently.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The provider and management team pursue excellence in all areas and provide exceptional leadership for the setting. They have high expectations for the quality of care, learning and development offered to children. They robustly review and update comprehensive procedures and documentation, which underpin staff's practice. Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Managers monitor staff's performance effectively. As a result, they identify and address any staff practice or training issues quickly. In addition, managers and staff work incredibly well together paying high regard to each other's strengths and areas of expertise. Therefore, they create a very supportive and positive environment for children to play and learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429986
Local authority	Isle of Wight
Inspection number	816657
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	The Island Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2011
Telephone number	01983884801

The Island - Little Herons Childcare registered in 2011. It is one of six childcare nurseries owned by a private company and operates from purpose-built premises that are located within the grounds of Wootton CP School on the Isle of Wight. The provision operates Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 5.30pm for 51 weeks of the year, closing for one week over the Christmas holiday period. Children can attend a variety of sessions and full time. Children have sole use of the premises and have access to their own fully secure outdoor play areas.

The nursery is registered to provide care for a maximum of 32 children under eight years at any one time. Of these, 32 children may be in the early years age group. The nursery is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently 66 children in the early years age group on roll. The nursery provides free early education. The nursery also provides a breakfast, after school and holiday club.

The company employs 10 members of staff, all of whom hold relevant early year's qualifications ranging from level 2 through to degree level. In addition, the two directors are also qualified in childcare.

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