

Little Owls Pre-School Playgroup

Toc H Hall, 78 Cambrian Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9HH



Inspection date 26 January 2016
Previous inspection date 18 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The manager does not ensure that staff keep an accurate record of children's attendance times, including their arrival and departure times. This is a breach of the Early Years Register.
- Staff do not manage children's behaviour consistently to help them learn about what is acceptable behaviour and the consequences of their actions.
- The quality of teaching is variable. Some staff do not identify when children need additional challenge to maintain their interest and support their learning.
- Routine activities do not always fully support younger children's emotional well-being.
- Self-evaluation procedures are not yet fully robust to identify all the weakness in the setting.

It has the following strengths

- Children learn to be independent. For example, older children see to their own personal care needs, and peel and chop vegetables to cook.
- Disabled children and those who have special educational needs receive appropriate support. For example, the manager monitors the tracking of children's progress to provide further support for their development.
- Staff work with other early years professionals and parents to share relevant information about children's learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that an accurate daily record of the names of all the children being cared for and their hours of attendance is continuously maintained 	01/02/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure staff follow a consistent approach to behaviour management to provide children with clear guidance about what is acceptable, to help them learn how to manage their own behaviour 	01/02/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve the quality of teaching to provide children with activities that consistently challenge, engage and motivate them in their learning. 	01/02/2016

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

- strengthen the daily care routines for younger children to further develop their relationships with their key person
- develop further self-evaluation to accurately identify all strengths and weaknesses in order to help children make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector interacted and spoke to children where appropriate.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and interaction.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the registered person, and completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed paperwork, including risk assessment, policies and procedures, children's progress records and records of attendance.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The management team has taken some steps to identify and target improvements and has a strong vision to develop the pre-school further. However, this is not yet effective enough to ensure that all requirements are met. For example, staff do not accurately record children's times of arrival and departure. The manager completes regular meetings with staff to provide training, support and coaching. Staff have opportunities to attend training courses to develop further their practice. However, this is not yet fully embedded to provide children with consistent teaching. Parents report that they can see an improvement in the pre-school and their children are happy to attend. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are aware of what to do if they have concerns about children's welfare. The management monitors children's achievements to identify gaps in their learning. They make good use of additional funding to provide additional resources to help children close those gaps.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Not all staff recognise when children need additional support or resources to interest and motivate them in their learning. However, some staff use their knowledge of the children to extend their learning. For example, they provide children with a cooking activity. Children excitedly talk and answer questions about where vegetables grow and what they like to eat. Parents receive updates about children's learning to extend their learning at home further. Children enjoy creating and exploring with different materials. For example, they mix sand and glue together and explore what happens when they add more of each.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children's behaviour is not consistently supported. Staff do not always explain to children about the consequences of their actions to help them learn to keep themselves safe. Overall, staff know their key children's individual needs. However, daily care routines, such as nappy changing, do not always help children to develop stronger attachments to their key person. Staff provide children with opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles. For instance, children enjoy daily opportunities to play outside in the fresh air and have healthy snacks. Children's opinions and choices are valued. Children learn about the importance of personal hygiene. For instance, they regularly wash their hands and understand why it is important.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make suitable progress in their learning and development. They have positive attitudes to learning. Children develop some of the key skills in readiness for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127336
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	846301
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Little Owls Pre School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2011
Telephone number	07884 015759

Little Owls Pre-school Playgroup registered in 1993 and is situated in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.30am to 12 noon, and until 3pm on Tuesday and Thursday, term time only. There are six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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