

# Little Barn Owls Nursery & Farm School



Little Barn Owls Nursery & Farm School, Moat House Farm, Rusper Road, Horsham, RH12 4QR

<b>Inspection date</b>	12 January 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The highly experienced provider is constantly pursuing excellence to improve the excellent outcomes for all children. She and the staff team meticulously evaluate and reflect on every area of the provision, making changes that have an extremely positive impact on children's learning and development.
- Staff make excellent use of their qualifications and high-quality interactions to encourage children to experiment, use their imaginations and process thoughts.
- All children play and learn together in a highly stimulating environment with access to an exceptionally wide range of innovative resources and activities, particularly outdoors. Children remain extremely focused and engaged throughout their day.
- The provider maintains an extremely positive partnership with other professionals and parents, some of whom are heavily involved with the parent nursery association. Parents state that they feel valued and appreciated, as their views and opinions are listened to and acted on.
- The exceptional key-person system supports children's emotional well-being highly successfully. Staff know the children and their families extremely well and provide continuous support to smooth children's move on to their next stage of learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on the existing excellent opportunities that children have to count and use mathematical language, to extend their mathematical knowledge even further.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff about how they plan for children's individual learning needs and monitor their progress.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the curriculum coordinator.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including staff suitability and qualifications, children's progress records, children's registers and some policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took into account their views.

### Inspector

Sarah Denman

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The provider has high aspirations for excellence. She knows her staff extremely well. She supports them to identify their talents and offers them excellent opportunities to develop their skills further. For example, all staff have recently attended training at a forest school to learn how to support children in taking manageable risks during play. The inspiring management team monitors children's progress rigorously to identify and tackle any learning gaps swiftly. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of their role and responsibilities to support children's welfare and know to seek support from other professionals where necessary. They supervise children vigilantly and teach them exceptionally well how to keep themselves safe, including around the farm animals.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their observations and assessments and children's thoughts to plan exceptional activities that inspire learning. For example, when children wondered whether trees talk, staff encouraged them to think about how trees might talk. They ignited children's imagination as they introduced clay to stick to the tree trunks to make faces and mouths. Children relished using a magnifying lens and probes, linked from plants to a computer, to listen to plants talking. Children eagerly explored the plants' roots and recorded their findings, establishing that, 'Plants must have mouths too, as they suck up the water to drink.' Staff teach mathematics well overall, although occasionally, they miss some opportunities to encourage counting and mathematical language further.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff make excellent use of the onsite farm to teach children about lifecycles and how to care for the animals. The introduction of a giant rabbit has inspired learning, such as about kings and queens. The children have designed a castle hutch because, 'He is the king rabbit!' Children have extremely good knowledge regarding their own health and hygiene around the animals. They know to always wash their hands after care routines to help reduce the risk of illness and infections that could be passed on by the animals. Staff set very high standards for children's behaviour, which is impeccable.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children become highly independent in their play and develop keen attitudes to learning. They concentrate exceptionally well, and respond to new and exciting experiences with awe and wonder. Older children have an excellent understanding of themselves and know to be respectful and polite to others at all times. The wealth of opportunities available to all children enables them to become skilful communicators who make excellent progress. Typically, they make the greatest progress in their personal development and are extremely well prepared for the next stage of their education.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY497526
<b>Local authority</b>	West Sussex
<b>Inspection number</b>	1037663
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	80
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	132
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Barn Owls Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP535122
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01403 254413

Little Barn Owls Nursery & Farm School registered in 2016. It is located in the Horsham area of West Sussex. The nursery is open 51 weeks of the year, each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It follows the Reggio Emilia approach to education. The nursery employs 38 staff, 26 of whom work directly with the children. Of those working with the children, three staff hold relevant early years qualifications at level 6 and 22 staff hold qualifications from level 2 to level 5.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

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 Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, 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 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2016

