

Little Pixies Nursery

Units 10 & 11, Kinton Business Park, Nesscliffe, Shropshire, SY4 1AZ



Inspection date	12 April 2017
Previous inspection date	8 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers have a strong vision and take steps to continually improve the nursery. Some aspects of practice have improved rapidly, such as the quality of the learning environments, both inside and outdoors.
- Staff working with the oldest children are exceptionally skilled in helping to prepare them for school. Children have very positive attitudes about starting school.
- Staff teach children about their community exceptionally well. They take children for walks around the village to take photographs. Children then paint what they have seen and display their work proudly for parents and visitors to see.
- Staff have an exceptionally strong focus on children's physical, personal, social and emotional development. As a result, children's progress in these areas is outstanding.
- Since the last inspection, the key-person system has been strengthened. As a result, all staff working in each room have an in-depth knowledge of each child's needs. This helps to promote consistency in the absence of a child's key person.
- Children are very eager to learn. They are curious and imaginative and concentrate well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff practice is outstanding. However, the evaluation of staff practice is not yet precise enough to help promote consistently outstanding practice across the nursery.
- Staff do not always make effective use of the information they gather from parents about children's learning when they first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen evaluation of staff practice, in order to challenge any minor variations and help raise the overall quality of teaching and care to an exceptional level
- make the most of information gathered from parents when children first start attending, in order to better influence planning and assessment of children's learning from the outset.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. He viewed a sample of children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. He had a tour of the nursery with one of the providers.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and one of the providers. He looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's action plans and safeguarding policy. The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Overall, staff receive good support from managers to help develop their practice. Staff who are new to the nursery are given a robust induction. Safeguarding is effective. All staff know how to report concerns about the abuse or neglect of children. The providers vet staff before employing them to help check their suitability. Managers regularly check staff's assessments and identify any children who need additional support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly share information with parents to keep them up to date about children's progress. Staff in the pre-school room particularly encourage parents to continue children's learning at home. For example, key persons select activities for children to do at home to help accelerate children's progress towards their next steps. Observation, assessment and planning systems are becoming well embedded. Staff support children to develop good communication and language skills. Older children listen well to instructions during group games. Staff also encourage younger children to develop their listening skills as they explore shells and listen to the sound they make when they hold them to their ear.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The excellent resources in the garden help children to enhance their already outstanding physical skills. Young children are able to safely climb up the mound and then slide down the slide, squealing with delight. Staff help the oldest children to refine their physical skills through games, such as egg hunts. Children listen to clues to find plastic eggs. They then follow the instructions that are hidden inside the egg telling them how to move around the room. This encourages children to move in different ways, such as galloping and marching. Managers have a strong focus on promoting children's healthy lifestyles. They work closely with the nursery cooks, parents and children to discuss what meals to provide and ensure that all meals are nutritionally balanced.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's social skills are outstanding and they are exceptionally well behaved. Children willingly hand over toys when their turn is over. They use excellent manners at mealtimes, such as saying thank you to the cook for their lunch. Children who are due to start school can count to 20 and recognise some familiar words from books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427812
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1094851
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Little Pixies Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP530642
Date of previous inspection	8 June 2015
Telephone number	01743741554

Little Pixies Nursery registered in 2011. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one staff member who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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