

Little Cuckoos Preschool

Lyes Green, Corsley, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7QH



Inspection date

22 May 2017

Previous inspection date

5 February 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team works hard to provide high-quality care and learning for children. It uses the views of staff, children, parents and carers to implement ambitious plans that benefit all the children.
- Staff create a welcoming environment, where they get to know children and their families extremely well. They cherish children's individuality and tailor care and learning to meet each child's needs. Teaching is consistently good.
- Children thoroughly enjoy the wide range of interesting and challenging experiences that staff provide. Children are confident and creative in their play.
- Staff accurately assess children's progress and quickly identify those at risk of falling behind. They ensure they receive any additional support they need to help catch up.
- Staff work closely with parents. They regularly share information about children's progress and offer welcome advice to help parents support children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for managing staff performance do not focus enough on the impact of teaching on children's learning, to help staff enhance their skills and knowledge, and so enable children to progress as well as they can.
- Staff do not make full use of children's assessment information to identify any gaps in achievement by different groups, such as boys and girls, to enable staff to target teaching highly effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the arrangements to support staff so that professional development and improvement plans are more precisely focused on the impact of teaching, to help children achieve the best possible outcomes
- monitor the progress of different groups of children more precisely, to target teaching to help children consistently make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and spoke with staff and children, during indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector held meetings with the chairperson and manager. They discussed safeguarding arrangements, and monitoring the quality of provision and children's progress.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of staff suitability, children's records, the self-evaluation record, policies and procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager and discussed how she monitors the quality of teaching and staff's professional development.
- The inspector spoke with several parents and took account of their comments.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The committee follows rigorous recruitment procedures to ensure staff are suitable. It attends training so it understands the requirements and can effectively oversee the safe and efficient running of the pre-school. Staff have a very clear understanding of their role to safeguard children. They express no hesitation in recognising, recording and reporting concerns. The manager and staff meet frequently to discuss practice and individual children, which has built an effective, strong staff team. Partnerships with other professionals and schools are well established to benefit children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enthusiastically join in because staff plan activities around their interests. To fire children's current fascination with knights and princesses, staff provide resources, such as hobby horses, dressing-up clothes and large blocks to build castles. Children use fine finger control and great perseverance to use a simple loom to plait braids for a princess's hair. They eagerly practise skills as they cut, stick, design and find the first letter of their name, to make and decorate shields. Staff provide challenging activities to develop children's mathematical understanding. For example, they estimate how many objects in a handful and then count accurately. Staff encourage children to find their own way of doing things so they are resilient and resourceful. Reluctant writers enthusiastically use tools to make marks in sand covering a coloured-light box.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff build children's confidence and self-esteem well, for example, they praise a work of art saying, 'This is all yours and nobody else's is the same'. Children play together well as they discuss how to build a castle, or delightedly discover that cars will 'fly' if you lift the end of the gutter off the ground before whizzing them down the slope. They behave well because they are so busy and staff reinforce consistent boundaries. Children learn to make healthy choices. Staff advise parents of healthy foods to bring and children play energetically, often outside, throughout the day. They manage small risks well, such as pedalling at speed and avoiding others. They remember safety rules, such as holding scissors away from faces.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are prepared well for school, gaining many useful skills that will give them a good start. They count well and use large numbers in their play. Older children begin to add and subtract. They love stories and most recognise their written name, and can hear the sounds in words and begin to link them to letters. They follow instructions and can concentrate on activities, showing great satisfaction in their achievements. They are friendly, confident and independent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	161999
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1089833
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Little Cuckoos Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903909
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2015
Telephone number	01373 832298

Little Cuckoos Preschool registered in 1986. It is situated in Corsley, Warminster. The pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs six staff. Three staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 and two hold qualifications at level 2.

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