

Little Owls Nursery Shepherds Lane

Shepherds Lane C C, Shepherds Lane, LEEDS LS8 5AW



Inspection date	6 September 2018
Previous inspection date	5 February 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- Staff have high aspirations for children and a first-class commitment to inclusion. They have a firm belief that all children can be independent learners and they work hard to remove barriers to learning.
- The quality of teaching across the nursery is excellent. Staff are highly skilled and use a range of strategies and techniques to engage the children. Consequently, all children make exceptional progress in their learning.
- Monitoring of children's progress is meticulous, rigorous and targeted. Any gaps in children's development are quickly identified and high-quality interventions put into place.
- The leadership team has a clear vision and engages at a high level to ensure partnerships with parents and external agencies are highly effective. Parents are full of praise and describe the nursery as 'central to our family story'.
- The manager and staff at all levels have an admirable passion and dedication to the children, and demonstrate drive and commitment to continuous improvement.
- Children are kept exceptionally safe and secure in the nursery. This is because staff fully understand the importance of safeguarding children and implement robust and meticulous health and safety procedures.
- Children's behaviour is impeccable. They play and learn happily together. This is due to the strong and consistent relationships with staff, who set an excellent example.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to review the implementation of the planned improvements to the outdoor area and evaluate the impact on outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector had a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation, and checked evidence of staff's suitability.

Inspector

Louise Williamson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The management team has a very clear and ambitious drive for continuous improvement. It has detailed creative plans in place to enhance the learning environment and outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent commitment to keeping the children safe and secure. There are robust procedures in place should they have concerns about a child in their care. Wider partnerships, such as links with local schools and providers, are fostered extremely well to ensure children's ongoing excellent progress. Recruitment and vetting procedures are rigorous through joint working with the local authority. All staff are well qualified and the leadership team encourages them to access training courses to maintain their outstanding practice. The monitoring of staff's teaching and the assessment of children's learning are extremely rigorous and thorough. Any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and rapidly closed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are excellent teachers and are sensitive to children's interests when they interact with them. They plan challenging activities and make detailed observations of children as they play. Staff watch what children can do and carefully intervene to extend their learning further. Children show the highest levels of engagement. Staff have a first-class approach to supporting children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They quickly identify individual children's learning needs and provide excellent support to parents. They also work very well with outside agencies so that no child is disadvantaged. Staff use highly effective questioning to encourage children to think and demonstrate what they know. They use simple language to help babies understand what they need to do next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The behaviour of the children is impeccable. Staff promote their independence across all age groups. They encourage toddlers to 'have a go' and older children to serve their own food and drink at lunchtime. Settling-in arrangements are highly flexible, according to the needs of each child and, as a consequence, children became secure and confident very quickly. Children demonstrate extremely close relationships with the staff and with each other. Children learn about many different aspects of being healthy and staying safe through daily routines. For example, they enjoy freshly cooked and nutritious meals, wash their hands and use the expansive outdoor area for regular exercise. The leadership team has plans in place to continue improving the outdoor area to enhance children's experiences further.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress and they are extremely well prepared for school. They are highly motivated and show high levels of engagement in their play. Children show excitement as they learn about mini-beasts in their garden and are keen to talk about their experiences. Babies develop exploratory skills and use their senses to explore sand and play dough. All children have excellent opportunities to investigate their environment. They make 'soup' using leaves, mud and fir cones in the outdoor area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	512563
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10064361
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Leeds City Council
Registered person unique reference number	RP900804
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2016
Telephone number	0113 2484603

Little Owls Nursery Shepherds Lane registered in 1990. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, one at level 5, 10 at level 3 and two at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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