

Little Explorers Playgroup, Broughton Astley

Sutton In The Elms Baptist Church, 2 Sutton Lane, Leicester LE9 6QF

Inspection date	24 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The provider is inspirational. She has extremely high expectations of her staff team and ensures that they are fully supported by the dedicated manager. A highly targeted programme of professional development helps to support staff with the acquisition of new skills and has an extremely positive effect on the overall quality of the playgroup.
- The excellent organisation of routines and resources helps the youngest children to manage tasks with superb levels of independence. For example, children reserve their place at the snack table by selecting their photograph from the self-registration board, and they pour their own drinks. This excellently prepares them for their eventual move on to school.
- The quality of teaching is superb. The well-qualified staff team turn every opportunity, including planned and spontaneous activities, into high-quality learning experiences for children. Staff instinctively seek to constantly challenge and extend children's abilities. Children respond eagerly and are thoroughly motivated to learn.
- All children, including those who are in receipt of additional funding make exceptional progress in their learning. Excellent early intervention helps to identify areas where children require further support. Targeted plans are put in place very quickly to close any gaps in children's development.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Staff successfully involve parents in their children's learning, and systems to share information are highly effective. Parents routinely inform staff of children's learning at home, which staff use very well in children's assessments and planning for their next steps in learning.
- Children's emotional well-being is given high priority. Staff's high expectations and nurturing manner help to support children's excellent behaviour.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to pursue further opportunities for children to learn about their local community.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out observations on staff's interactions with children and evaluated these with the playgroup provider and manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She spoke with children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including the playgroup's safeguarding procedures, and children's observation and assessment records. She also reviewed the playgroup's evaluation documents and discussed other methods of reflective practice.

Inspector
Carly Polak

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Highly effective supervisions, monitoring and sharply focused professional development help the manager to set clear targets for staff. In addition, arrangements for staff to share good practice are in place and highly successful. For example, the provider has implemented a playgroup mentor to support the manager. This network of support helps staff to continue to improve outcomes for children. All staff are highly reflective practitioners and evaluate the playgroup thoroughly. The provider and manager are looking at further ways to enhance children's opportunities to learn about their local community. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand their responsibilities in relation to child protection issues. They expertly know how to report to the relevant professionals should they become aware of concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are superb at encouraging and supporting children to problem solve and use their deep-thinking skills. Children investigate the effect of mixing water with flour and salt when they make their own dough in the role-play corner. Children develop excellent literacy skills. Staff help them to understand that print carries meaning when they follow written instructions about how to make their dough. Children enjoy the mathematical concepts of mixing, measuring, weighing and pouring. Furthermore, children engage in imaginary play as they make and bake their cakes for a birthday party. Boys relish the opportunity to play outside for the whole session. They explore the water trays with excitement and make tunnels for their cars to go from one water tray to the next. The small group of boys are fully immersed in their play, taking on roles, playing cooperatively and developing their problem-solving skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop extremely close bonds with their key person and show that they feel incredibly safe and secure in their care. They enjoy spending quality time with them. For example, children and their key person lie on the floor drawing portraits together for significant periods of time. Staff use this activity as a fantastic opportunity to teach children about similarities and differences between each other. The activity is completely relaxed and led by the children. Staff teach children to maintain high levels of personal hygiene and provide rich opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles. For example, staff and parents work very closely together to provide healthy lunchbox contents. Furthermore, children participate in weekly sport sessions that help to enhance their physical development.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make outstanding progress. They regularly demonstrate skills above the typical development levels for their age. Children are supremely confident, highly motivated and treat others with care and respect. They show their developing writing skills as they write their own name on the pictures they have made. Children have exceptionally positive attitudes to learning, which will prepare them well for their future move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540930
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10079360
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Bates, Alison
Registered person unique reference number	RP515127
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07816971471

Little Explorers Playgroup, Broughton Astley registered in 2016. The playgroup employs five members of childcare staff. All of these hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including three who hold early years teacher status. The playgroup opens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9am until 2pm, during term-time only. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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