

Little Explorers

The Scout Hut, The Leasowes, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 7HH



Inspection date	5 December 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

- Partnership with parents is a clear strength. Staff work closely with parents to help them support their children's learning at home and close any gaps in their child's development. Parents are actively involved in nursery life and often attend the numerous events that take place.
- Staff ask parents about children's home life, interests and care needs. They use this information well to help support children's emotional well-being, confidence and individual needs.
- The quality of teaching is good and staff place a strong focus on interacting with children to increase their language and listening and attention skills.
- Staff are inclusive in their approach and recognise and promote cultural differences within the group and meet any additional needs well.
- Staff provide good individual support for those children who need it most and for those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The manager does not rigorously monitor staff's practice and provide incisive coaching and professional development opportunities to help raise the quality of teaching to an exceptional level.
- Staff do not make the very best use of assessment information to help provide highly challenging activities for the most able children in mathematics.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the systems in place to monitor individual staff practice and provide incisive development opportunities to help raise the quality of teaching to an exceptional level
- sharpen the use of assessment information to help provide highly challenging activities for the most able children in their mathematics.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at the nursery during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The owner, manager and staff team work together to help identify further areas for development. For example, there is a well-focused development plan in place to build on the quality of care and play experiences provided. Staff benefit from regular staff supervisory sessions to ensure they are kept up to date and are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. There are robust vetting systems in place to ensure staff are suitable. Staff have a clear understanding of child protection and wider safeguarding issues and know the procedure to follow if they have a concern about a child. Parents are impressed with the service they receive and the individual attention and support the staff give to their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use children's individual interests well to capture their attention and to help them learn. For example, staff create boards with photographs of children's interests, such as dinosaurs, trains, insects and farm animals, to stimulate discussion further. Staff skilfully use resources, such as toy dinosaurs, to help children identify similarities and differences and to engage them in conversation. Staff observe children, follow their lead as they play and use these experiences well to promote learning. For instance, staff follow the children's request to draw around their own feet and children delight in their achievements. Staff help children learn about their local community and the natural environment. For example, staff encourage children to find insects and talk about what they see, such as people washing their cars and mowing their lawns.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff prioritise well those children who are new at the nursery and settling in, and sensitively support them to join in and take part when they are ready. Staff provide ample opportunities for children to learn to share and take turns and help them to learn about the codes of behaviour in place to keep them safe. Staff work closely with parents to learn about any cultural differences and use this information well to teach children about difference. For example, staff provide a diverse range of cultural resources and encourage children to taste various cultural foods. Children learn about how people live in different homes, such as caravans, boats, flats and igloos. Staff help children learn about the importance of keeping their bodies healthy and the benefits of healthy foods, exercise and cleaning their teeth.

Outcomes for children are good

The majority of children move on to another nursery at the age of three years. All children, including those receiving additional funding, make good progress and are well prepared for their next stage of learning. Children show a real interest in a range of art and craft activities and use their senses to explore materials, such as water, dough and compost. Children enjoy making marks in a variety of ways, using crayons, chalk, shaving foam and making tracks with trains in paint. Children learn to recognise their names in print at registration time and enjoy their interactions with staff. Children enjoy being physically active, exploring and being imaginative outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501630
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10076831
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	Little People Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908009
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07974 676553

Little Explorers registered in 2016. It runs from a scout hut in Lichfield, Staffordshire. The nursery opens Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, during school term times. Sessions are from 9.30am until 2.30pm. The nursery employs three members of staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 5 and two at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two and three years.

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