

Little Bears Forest Pre School

Langstone Church, Shore Avenue, Southsea PO4 8NB



Inspection date	6 December 2018
Previous inspection date	28 February 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

- Staff are good at supporting children with special educational needs. They continually liaise with all professionals involved in children's care. The manager strategically targets funding to provide children with additional assistance and resources. Children from all backgrounds flourish and make good progress in their development.
- The management team work hard to raise the quality of their practice. They continue to reflect on potential areas for improvement. Most recently, they strengthened the induction procedures. Experienced staff offer newer colleagues strong guidance to fulfil their responsibilities. New staff are happy and settle quickly into the established team.
- Staff consistently teach children to assess risk for themselves. They remind children to follow effective safety rules, such as whilst they are climbing. Children securely reposition their feet between branches and they are careful not to bump into their friends on the way down. Children are confident to take part in new physical activities.
- Staff promote considerate behaviour. They actively encourage children to help people in their local community and they talk to them about how to treat animals with respect. Children are continually kind and caring towards others.
- Staff miss opportunities to encourage the youngest children to socialise with others to even further develop their communication skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide as many opportunities as possible for the youngest children to engage in conversation with others to develop their communication skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with parents about how staff share details of their child's learning and development.
- The inspector talked to staff about their understanding of child protection and how they respond to any concerns about children.
- The inspector attended a leadership meeting with the manager and her deputy, they discussed priorities for improvement.
- The inspector and the manager engaged in conversation and evaluated an adult-led activity.
- The inspector accessed children's personal learning records and talked to staff about the progress individual children are making.

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager continually develops the range of learning opportunities available to staff to enhance their teaching knowledge. All staff have the option to complete regular training and they continually share their knowledge with the team. For example, staff enhanced their grasp of how to teach mathematics outdoors. They have used the information from the training to plan new, fun activities. Children enjoy counting natural resources and they are quick to identify numbers in their environment. Safeguarding is effective. The manager routinely checks that staff's understanding of all aspects of child protection is secure. For instance, she asks them questions about how they would escalate concerns about the behaviour of a colleague. She offers them easy access to the relevant numbers they can ring to seek external advice and support. Since the last inspection the manager has reflected on the recruitment process. She always seeks a disclosure and barring service check for all new members of the team and she talks to them about their suitability to work with children. Staff approach other providers that share the care of children, they discuss how to resolve any developmental issues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff supply children with a stimulating range of resources to provoke their curiosity. Children are motivated and excited to engage in learning. For example, staff organise a bug-hunt. They encourage children to enthusiastically dig through soil as they work together to find insects and spiders. Staff develop children's knowledge of the world as they answer questions children ask about the creatures they find. Staff partner up with parents to discuss learning. For instance, they frequently complete accurate assessment of children's progress and they have a good insight into the levels that all children are working at. They continue to extend older children's learning, such as, when they encourage children to identify repeating patterns in the environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to develop their spatial awareness skills, such as when young children carefully use a pincer grip to pick up seeds. They are visibly chuffed when they complete tasks and they share the information with nearby friends. Staff support children to stretch and move their whole bodies. For example, they enthusiastically show children how to complete simple yoga moves. Other children enjoy spontaneously jumping in muddy puddles. All children are excited to be outside in a range of weathers. Staff encourage children to develop a positive attitude to food. For instance, they educate them about how they can use the herbs in the garden to make their food tastier.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent. Young children put on their own shoes and older children change into their wet weather outfits. They display good memory skills, such as when they remember the information they learnt about crystals. Children develop an enthusiasm for learning that will serve them well when they move into the school environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493734
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10084791
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Little Bears Forest Preschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534913
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2018
Telephone number	07544112751

Little Bears Forest Preschool registered in 2015. It is located in Southsea, Portsmouth. The Preschool opens for 38 weeks of the year from 8am until 5pm, Monday to Thursday. There is also a holiday club that runs for three weeks during the school summer holiday. There are ten staff working with children. The provider who also manages the setting has a level 5 qualification, another member of staff has a level 6 qualification, five members of staff hold early years qualifications at level 3. The provider receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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