

Little Monkeys Playgroup

Village Hall, Main Street, Leicester, LE8 6UF



Inspection date	27 November 2017
Previous inspection date	5 June 2014

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

- Children are very happy and settled in this friendly playgroup. Practitioners are highly skilled and sensitive in helping all children form secure attachments. For instance, during child initiated play, practitioners make good use of their knowledge of each individual child to create a positive experience.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good. Practitioners know children well and provide activities based on children's interests. Children demonstrate high levels of involvement and concentration.
- The manager and her team are reflective. They have a clear vision for continuous improvement. In addition, they take account of and value parents' views to further improve the outcomes for children. For instance, the manager has acted upon suggestions from parents to display more information about lunchtime menus.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Parents speak very highly about the care and education that their children receive. They feel informed and supported about their children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Practitioners do not always make the best use of their knowledge of children's development to focus precisely on how to help children make rapid progress.
- Although the manager has systems in place to coach and mentor her team, the supervision process does not yet support staff to achieve the highest level in their performance.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine and improve the already good systems for planning and assessment, in order to plan more precisely for children's next steps in learning and help them to achieve rapid progress
- enhance the already good coaching and supervision of staff to further develop and support their individual performance.

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 had a tour of the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke with practitioners, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager of the playgroup.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.

Inspector

Dawn Larkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and senior practitioners are vigilant about the security of the premises and check all visitors before entry. Practitioners are confident in their knowledge of all aspects of child protection procedures. Staff regularly attend safeguarding training and have kept up to date with recent changes to guidance and legislation. The manager and her team effectively monitor the curriculum to ensure all children make good progress. When any gaps are identified, extra support is given to those children who require it. The quality of teaching and practice is monitored closely. For example, the manager and all staff complete regular observations of teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Most practitioners are well qualified and experienced. They provide children with a good mix of adult-directed activities and child-initiated learning. This encourages children to explore and follow their own interests. Practitioners interact positively with children to support their play and learning. They are skilled at knowing when to join in with children's play to extend it or to observe carefully so that children's play is not interrupted. All children's communication and language development is promoted effectively. Practitioners get down to the children's level to encourage eye contact and to show that they value children's ideas. Children are not bombarded with questions but given the time to think and respond. This encourages quieter children to use more than one word and vocalise their thoughts.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very well behaved because they understand and follow the routines of the playgroup. Practitioners are positive role models and give consistent guidelines. Children receive plenty of attention, affection and praise. This supports their emotional well-being successfully. Since the last inspection, practitioners now make better use of the outdoor space to promote children's physical development. Children delight as they ride a range of wheeled toys outside. Younger children challenge themselves to ride bikes, developing their coordination and balancing skills. Ample physical activity encourages children's understanding of following a healthy lifestyle. In addition, they are learning the importance of a good oral-health routine as they brush their teeth after lunch.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and motivated learners. They are learning the key skills they need for their future learning and in readiness for school. Children are able to follow instructions and listen intently. When role playing using their imagination, they are able to play co-operatively with their friends and follow a simple storyline within their play. Children enjoy stories and are learning to recognise the letters in their names. Older children are developing good control when using scissors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471611
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	1102893
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Richard Love
Registered person unique reference number	RP902970
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2014
Telephone number	07840962490

Little Monkeys Playgroup registered in 2013. The playgroup employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm during term time.

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