

Little Legs

43 High Street, SITTINGBOURNE, Kent, ME10 4AW



Inspection date

2 February 2015

Previous inspection date

28 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children form positive relationships with their key person and other adults. This supports their confidence and helps them to settle into nursery.
- The manager provides strong leadership and constantly reflects on practice within the nursery. Plans for improvement are well targeted to further improve the quality of provision.
- Safeguarding and risk assessment procedures are thorough and robust. This ensures that children are safe and well protected.
- Children's individual needs are well supported; there are effective partnerships between the staff, parents and professional agencies.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development. This is because staff effectively assess children's starting points and monitor their development. Staff plan and provide opportunities to support children's individual needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to ask children open ended questions, and occasionally do not allow children sufficient time to think about what they are learning. This does not fully maximise children's thinking skills.
- Staff do not always support children's literacy skills outdoors, to enable children to see written letters and words.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff further to refine their questioning skills and allow children sufficient time to process information, to maximise their thinking skills
- strengthen children's literacy skills outdoors, by displaying print so children begin to learn about letters and words.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all three play rooms and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of children's activities with the manager.
- The inspector toured the premises, held meetings with the manager and spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working with the children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plans.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The manager and staff team have a good knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children benefit from a good balance of adult led and child initiated activities. Consequently, children make good progress in their development. Toddlers fully enjoy sensory play, for example, they spend time printing with bricks. However, staff sometimes miss opportunities to ask children open questions to extend their thinking skills. Staff store resources at low level to effectively promote children's independence. Staff skilfully support children's communication and language development. They have key words in place in the children's home language. Staff spend time with the parents to learn about children's starting points. Staff carry out observations and assessments to identify children's next steps and progress in their learning. Children use a variety of to develop their early writing skills. However, there a fewer opportunities outdoors for children to see written letters and words.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children are happy and secure at the nursery. Staff know the children very well, as a result children settle quickly when they arrive and begin to play. Staff promote children's safety throughout the nursery. All staff have attended safeguarding training so they know what to do should they be concerned regarding the welfare of children in their care. Children develop good levels of independence and self-help skills as they to tidy up toys, pour their own drinks and serve food. As a result, children develop good personal skills in readiness for their move on to school. Children have opportunities to be physically active. They have regular access to an enclosed garden area and younger children benefit from indoor climbing apparatus. Consequently, children receive plenty of fresh air and physical exercise.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management team have a good understanding of their roles and responsibility to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They take positive steps to monitor the educational programmes. This enables them to highlight potential learning gaps and take prompt action. Since the last inspection the manager and staff have made significant improvements to the positive outcomes for children attending the nursery. Staff implement risk assessments and fire drills take place regularly to promote children's safety. Robust systems for recruitment ensure all adults working with the children are suitable. Ongoing staff meetings and supervisions identify the staffs strengths and areas for development. Parents and children's views are highly valued through the nursery's self-evaluation process.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY460281
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	966783
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	68
Name of provider	Little Legs (Colchester) Limited
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2014
Telephone number	07956 546127

Little Legs is owned by Little Legs (Colchester) Limited. The nursery was registered in 2013. It operates from four rooms and a kitchen area, in a terraced town building in Sittingbourne, Kent. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently 68 children attending in the early year's age range. The nursery supports children who learn English as an additional language. The nursery provides free early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. There are eleven members of staff, of whom ten hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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