

Little Bears Pre School

Shebbear Community School, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon, EX21 5SG



Inspection date

12 June 2015

Previous inspection date

6 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff have a very secure understanding of child development and they use this knowledge effectively to plan exciting activities for children.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary, enabling a consistent approach between home and pre-school.
- Educational programmes are unique both inside and outside; this ensures children learn through motivational and inspiring activities.
- Staff have a thorough understanding of safeguarding procedures and implement these consistently to keep children safe from harm.
- Staff have extremely effective links with other professionals, enabling children to feel confident in their move to school.
- Children's needs are exceptionally met, enabling all children to reach their full potential.
- Children learn about healthy lifestyles through nutritious snacks, although staff do not always help them to understand the effects of physical exercise on the body.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further children's knowledge of healthy lifestyles by encouraging them to talk about the effects of physical exercise on their body.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play both inside and outside.
- The inspector sought views from parents about the provision.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation including children's assessments and relevant policies.
- The inspector spoke to children to gain their views about the provision.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection findings

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

Children flourish in this outstanding environment where they learn from highly motivating activities. For example, children engage in canvass floor painting outside to promote early writing skills. Children also learn about expressive arts and design through a broad range of materials. Staff are excellent role models and children learn by example. Staff have extremely good interactions with children and question them skilfully to stimulate their thinking and encourage children to resolve issues independently. Children's ideas are incorporated into the planning to ensure that children learn from activities that interest them. Parents play a vital role in their children's development and staff encourage this by providing home learning opportunities. Staff encourage children to take activities home to further promote their mathematical and literacy skills. This ensures children acquire the necessary steps needed for the next stage in their development.

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

A strong key-person system ensures that children feel safe and secure with staff. They have high levels of self-esteem and explore the environment with confidence. Staff effectively encourage children to be independent. Children enjoy pieces of fruit they pick up with tongs and use spoons to scoop up raisins; this promotes children's hand-to-eye coordination as well as providing them with an understanding of healthy foods. Staff have a robust understanding of the safeguarding requirements and protecting children from harm is fundamental to their practice. Highly stimulating resources both inside and outside enable all children to learn through practical and challenging activities. Children learn through activities that are based around real-life experiences. For example, staff make a farmyard using natural materials. This promotes children's understanding of the world around them.

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

Staff have an exemplary drive to improve their practice. They use knowledge from regular training to promote learning. Following training, staff provide more resources for children who have a preferred method of learning. Management is highly reflective. They continuously evaluate their practice and make changes to improve activities and the environment for children. Individual staff take responsibility for specific areas of the environment and actively enhance it, to provide children with new and exciting ideas. The manager uses regular staff supervision to maintain and improve their high standards of teaching. She monitors children's assessments to ensure they are accurate and tailored to meet individual needs. Children are fully prepared for their transfer to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106349
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	839417
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	Little Bears Pre-school (shebbear) Committee
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2012
Telephone number	07890 814564

Little Bears Pre School registered in October 1998. The setting operates from within the grounds of Shebbear Community School, Devon. It is open on weekdays during term time, from 9am to 1pm on Mondays and Fridays, and from 9am to 3.15pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A stay and play session is available on Wednesdays from 9am to 11am. The pre-school receives funding for three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school employs three members of staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at Level 3.

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