

The Little Pennies Pre-School



Sixpenny Handley County First School, Common Road, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5NJ

Inspection date	20 January 2016
Previous inspection date	11 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff know the children exceptionally well. The staff use this knowledge highly effectively to reshape and adapt activities to offer challenge to each child.
- Children learn exceptionally well how to keep themselves safe. Staff consistently discuss and remind them how to play safely. They explain why situations may be dangerous and allow the children to come up with ideas on how to overcome these dangers.
- The staff are extremely skilled at extending children's learning with their teaching and giving children time to answer questions. This helps to support children's ability to think critically and develops their communication skills exceptionally well.
- Staff relentlessly encourage children to become independent. Staff direct and instruct the children rather than do things for them, and sensitively encourage them to try things for themselves. This helps children develop an excellent sense of achievement.
- Staff successfully ensure that parents are fully involved with their children's learning. They regularly share an excellent range of information about children's progress to help them extend this learning at home.
- Management frequently evaluates practice to identify and make ongoing improvements. They meticulously gather the views of the staff team, children and parents to set clear targets for future improvement and enhance the outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make greater use of all opportunities to build on children's early literacy skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during activities in the play room and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and deputy of the provision and the chair of the committee, and spoke with parents, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, policies and procedures, and feedback from parents.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team is highly experienced and extremely knowledgeable. They are led by a committee that has very high expectations. The manager acts as a positive mentor and motivates her staff, who share their individual skills extremely well. She completes regular and highly effective observations of the quality of staff's teaching and regularly meets with them, for example, to discuss staff's training needs. Staff skilfully implement new ideas to enhance their practice and outcomes for children even further. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibility to protect children. They minimise risks so children can play in safety, and know how to report any concerns they have for a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff's relationships with children are exceptional. Staff draw on their excellent knowledge of each child's characteristics and the different ways in which they learn. Staff very skilfully model curiosity and imagination, which helps contribute to children becoming fully immersed in their learning. Partnerships with other professionals are very well established and make an exceptionally strong contribution to meeting the needs of all children. Staff find highly effective ways to support children who are learning English as an additional language to help develop their vocabulary and communication skills. Key persons track individual children's progress very precisely. They accurately identify and support their next steps in learning. Progress records are regularly moderated by management to help ensure assessments are accurate. Any gaps in children's learning are swiftly identified and prompt action taken to bring about improvement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Routines and care practices are very well established and consistently implemented. Staff have high expectations of children. Children form trusting and meaningful relationships with staff. Children feel safe, secure and are extremely confident in their care. Children are extremely confident in their self-care and independence skills and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. For example, children know the risks of not washing their hands before snack time. Staff give children lots of specific praise and encouragement. Children develop excellent self-esteem. They eagerly explore and become engrossed in highly stimulating activities. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show an extremely kind and caring attitude to each other, work well together, respect each other and take turns.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are making excellent progress from their starting points. They gain the skills they need for their future learning and in readiness for school. Children develop high levels of curiosity, are motivated to learn and enthusiastically engage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418267
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	832498
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	The Little Pennies Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2010
Telephone number	01725 552356

The Little Pennies Pre-School opened in September 2010. It operates from purpose-built premises situated within the grounds of Sixpenny Handley First School, in Salisbury, Wiltshire. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two and four years. It operates during term time only, from 8.45am until 2.45pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 8.45am until 11.45am on Friday. There are six staff employed to work with the children. Of these, one staff member holds Early Years Practitioner Status, three have appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3, and two members of staff have qualifications at level 2.

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