

Little Tots Nursery

St Mary's Parish Centre, Church Lane, Burghfield, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 3TG



Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

15 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Excellent relationships exist between staff and children. Children are inspired to learn and they develop excellent levels of self-confidence and physical skills as they play within a series of diverse, rich and nurturing environments.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have their individual needs met exceptionally well through highly effective partnership working between staff, parents and outside agencies.
- Children benefit from the excellent quality of teaching and make outstanding progress in their learning and development. The well-supervised staff routinely reflect on their own practice and challenge themselves to achieve increasingly high levels of competence.
- The manager has a thorough understanding of her role in meeting the legal requirements for safeguarding and promoting children's welfare. She ensures that her staff use effective policies and procedures to support children's good health, safety and well-being.
- Staff have an impressive array of qualifications and continue to extend their training to enhance outcomes for children. Recent courses cover areas of safeguarding, first aid and protecting children on their excursions, as well as training in developing children's communication and language skills and emotional well-being.
- Highly effective partnerships with parents cement strong links between home and the nursery; these have a very positive impact on children's learning and development.
- Inspirational leadership continues to drive forward improvements in the nursery provision. The leadership team and enthusiastic staff are eager to do their very best for the children in their care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- celebrate linguistic diversity and provide opportunities for all children to hear and link phrases in different languages.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the nursery and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding, staffing, supervision, risk assessment, equal opportunities, and health and safety, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records and the nursery's systems for planning, evaluating and exchanging information with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of many parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with exceptional opportunities to learn and develop. They ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for enquiry by providing wonderfully rich activities tailored to meet their individual needs and interests. All children benefit enormously from daily outings to explore their woodland area and to tend their allotment. Staff balance these adventures with on-site sessions in yoga, music, cooking and dance. Children also enjoy plenty of time to choose, play and experiment with high-quality educational resources. All children speak with confidence in English, including those who are bilingual. However, opportunities to celebrate the linguistic diversity within the group are not fully embraced. Staff use high-quality observations and precise assessments of children's achievements to ensure children make significant levels of progress across all areas of learning. Excellent relationships with parents help provide emotional stability and continuity in children's learning. Staff prepare children very well for their moves to school.

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

The experienced staff team places high priority on ensuring children's safety on the premises, on outings and when travelling in the minibus. Risk assessments for all activities and locations are thorough. Staff teach children how to manage daily risks as they learn to keep safe around the campfire and recognise plants and berries that are bad to eat. Children also learn how to plant, nurture, harvest and cook fruits and vegetables to keep them healthy and fit. They know how to apply good hygiene practices in different locations and why these matter. Many parents commend staff for their unwavering commitment to their children and for their skills in nurturing children's emotional well-being. Staff quickly identify when children would benefit from extra support and work with parents to make timely interventions and referrals for specialist support. The staff excel in supporting children with significant special educational needs and/or disabilities and their parents.

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

Inspiring, diligent and hardworking leaders ensure that their staff meet all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to a very high standard. Where appropriate they bring in outside expertise to ensure their policies and procedures help staff follow the latest good practice guidance to safeguard children. All staff have a thorough understanding of child protection issues and what to do if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager is a midwife, forest school leader and a qualified early years teacher. She expertly monitors the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning and development. Highly effective self-evaluation ensures staff, children and parents identify new priorities for improvement. Staff look forward to using online learning journals as a way of enhancing sharing information with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429870
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	822788
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	69
Name of provider	Little Tots Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2011
Telephone number	01189591371

Little Tots Nursery, Burghfield, registered in 2011. The nursery is one of a chain of three nurseries and is situated in the village of Burghfield, near Reading. It is open each weekday during term time, from 9am to 1pm on Monday and Friday, and 9am to 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. The manager is a qualified early years teacher and 11 of the remaining 15 staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3 to level 6. Several staff have additional qualifications as Montessori teachers or forest school leaders.

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