

Little School

1st Floor, Methodist Church, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 7DT



Inspection date	9 March 2015
Previous inspection date	5 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide a wide range of challenging and exciting activities based on careful observations of children. They identify steps to support them in the next stage of their learning. Therefore, children are making good progress.
- Staff support children's emotional well-being extremely well. They form strong, caring relationships with children and are quick to respond to their needs and interests. As a result, children are happy, confident and feel secure in nursery.
- The manager and staff are enthusiastic and dedicated, and work extremely well as a team to promote the achievement of all children.
- Children are very well behaved. Staff encourage and celebrate children's good behaviour and deal with incidents of unwanted behaviour sensitively and appropriately. Therefore, children are supported to learn right from wrong and to keep themselves safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Outdoor play is at times restricted by routine or adverse weather conditions. Consequently, staff do not fully consider the learning needs of children who prefer to learn and play outside.
- Staff do not always give children enough time to respond to prompts and questions. Therefore, opportunities to support children's communication and language development are not consistently embraced.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise use of the outdoor area to provide further opportunities to promote children's learning and development
- further support children's language development by ensuring all staff give children time to think and respond to prompts and questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children in all indoor areas.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector sampled documents including planning and assessment of children's learning, policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with the manager and staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy fun and challenging activities that support their learning and development. Staff encourage children to solve problems, experiment and express themselves freely as they create their own impressions of Chinese dragons and the work of famous artists. High priority is given to children's language development and most staff are highly skilled as they talk to children about growing beanstalks and introduce new vocabulary, such as pods, stalks and shoots. However, on occasions, some staff miss opportunities to promote children's language development by not giving children enough time to talk and respond during stories and in their play. Staff meet children's individual needs by adapting activities to make sure they are able to participate comfortably. However, limited access to the garden means that children who learn best outdoors are less well supported. Parents are well informed and feel involved in their child's learning. They speak highly of the nursery, commenting on the 'family feel' and that staff are 'fantastic'.

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

The environment is bright and welcoming. Routines and effective staff deployment allow children to spend time in their base room and also explore other areas of the nursery as they move around independently with confidence. Children form secure attachments with key workers and other staff, supporting their emotional well-being. Staff work extremely well as a team and share information effectively to ensure children's needs are met. Therefore, children are very well prepared as they progress through the classes in the nursery. They are also prepared for their move into Reception class as a result of strong effective partnerships with schools. Staff are excellent role models with a calm and sensitive approach and demonstrate good manners at all times. They are particularly skilled in promoting positive behaviour. For example, children squeal with excitement when they are chosen for the 'hall star' award for being kind and helpful. Healthy lifestyles are well promoted as children enjoy a healthy snack and discuss the importance of washing their hands before baking.

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

The manager and staff team have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. Priority is given to safeguarding throughout recruitment, induction and staff supervisions. A comprehensive policy and procedure is in place which is fully understood by all staff, including students. The premises are safe and secure and risks are routinely assessed. Staff are supported well in their professional development, which has a clear impact on the quality of teaching. The manager has clear priorities for improvement in the nursery, and the staff team share her enthusiasm and dedication. Educational programmes support children's progress across all areas of learning. Assessments and planning for children's learning are precise and next steps are clearly identified. The manager demonstrates accurate knowledge of children's individual needs. She is quick to identify gaps in learning and development, to act on concerns and seek support.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY359833
Local authority	Bradford
Inspection number	873577
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Helen Claire Franks
Date of previous inspection	5 March 2012
Telephone number	07960 862 199

Little School is privately owned and was registered in 2007. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including 4 with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time only, with sessions from 9.15am until 12.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

