

Little Meadow Group

Little Meadows, Elmore Lane East, Quedgeley, Gloucester, GL2 4LX



Inspection date

5 November 2015

Previous inspection date

16 May 2011

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

- The dedicated manager and committed staff team use highly effective monitoring processes to ensure that children make the best progress possible. Highly effective and inspirational self-evaluation and extreme accuracy in developing and implementing action plans, help management maintain consistently high standards in teaching, care and practice.
- Parents are extremely happy with the service provided, particularly the strong, emotional attachments their children develop with their key person. Parents feel included in their child's learning and extremely well informed about their progress.
- Children thrive in a very well organised and exceptionally well-resourced learning environment.
- Management and staff demonstrate an outstanding commitment to developing partnerships with other professionals and settings. They use excellent arrangements for sharing information to ensure they are extremely knowledgeable about children's individual needs. This helps them to maintain a consistent and continuous approach to meeting the children's needs.
- The quality of teaching and care is outstanding. Staff have an excellent knowledge and understanding of childcare and development. They use their expertise to provide an extensive variety of activities and play experiences that challenge, motivate and interest children. Children flourish in all aspects of their learning, preparing them extremely well for the move to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's awareness of healthy lifestyles even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing, inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff, committee members, parents and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including learning records, self-evaluation and staff records.

Inspector

Liz Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have an excellent knowledge of their child protection responsibilities and meet all the requirements. They use rigorous systems to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a comprehensive induction and highly effective support and training to maintain their consistently high standard of practice. Since the last inspection, management has developed the outdoors even further with more resources and a covered area so children have even more opportunities to extend their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is highly effective throughout the pre-school. Children are eager to investigate the many high-quality experiences provided, indoors and outdoors. For example, children talked about patterns and shapes, measured, used a range of tools and developed their language skills as they redecorated the large playhouse with staff. Teaching is inspirational. The highly motivated staff promote children's all-round development. Children form excellent relationships with each other and their behaviour is exemplary. Caring and positive relationships with staff help children to feel safe and secure. Children thoroughly enjoy activities, either individually with staff or as part of a group. For example, children became very excited about making a pretend sparkler using a bread stick, icing and coloured sugar. Staff used children's interest extremely well to teach children about being safe on firework night and holding sparklers safely.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are meticulous at meeting children's needs. They take time to get to know children, and work exceedingly well with parents. Staff support children's emotional well-being very successfully when children first start. For instance, they adapt routines so that younger children have opportunities to gain confidence and get to know one another. As children gain confidence, they demonstrate increasing independence, for example, as they choose when and what they would like to eat for snack. Overall, staff promote healthy lifestyles well through a variety of activities. For example, children develop their physical skills as they use a range of equipment, spend time outside in the fresh air and learn about healthy eating. In addition, children grow and harvest some vegetables, such as potatoes, and learn how to cook them. Staff identified that children did not know where a range of different foods come from and recognised this as an area to develop further.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points in all areas of learning. Staff plan excellent activities to promote children's individual development to ensure they gain the skills they need for their ongoing learning and readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511757
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	826267
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Little Meadow Group Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2011
Telephone number	01452 725834

Little Meadow Group registered in November 2004. It operates on the site of Meadowside Primary School in Quedgeley, Gloucestershire. It opens each weekday during term time from 9am to 12 noon, and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for the younger children from 12.45pm to 3pm. There are seven members of staff; of these, one holds Early Years Professional Status, one holds Qualified Teacher Status, one holds a qualification at level 6 and four hold qualifications at level 3.

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