

Little Crickets Learning Centre



Northwood Cricket Club, Corner of Ducks Hill Road and Rickmansworth Road,
Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 2NP

Inspection date	6 April 2018
Previous inspection date	18 August 2015

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children benefit from a welcoming and nurturing learning environment. They settle well, make friends and play happily. Children's behaviour is good.
- Staff attend well to the needs of each child. When identifying gaps in children's learning, they provide good support to help children catch up. Children make good progress in relation to their individual starting points and capabilities. Staff prepare children well for the next stages in their learning, including starting school.
- Children have fabulous opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they eagerly create their physical games in the outdoors. They skip, hop and jump happily.
- Staff keep parents fully informed about their children's progress and actively engage them in planning their child's next steps.
- Staff work very well with relevant agencies to help ensure that children receive the appropriate support they need to learn and to achieve.
- Managers continually monitor and improve the quality of the provision to help secure good outcomes for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some staff do not provide enough challenge to fully extend children's mathematical skills and the ability to solve problems independently.
- Staff do not always extend opportunities for children to access and further develop their skills in using everyday technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide higher levels of challenge to help children further develop their mathematical skills and the ability to solve problems independently
- increase further opportunities for children to access and develop their skills in using information and communication technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all parts of the nursery, including outdoor provision.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times, and held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at children's records and the nursery's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Fatiha Maitland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider undertakes the vetting checks on all staff to ensure that they are suitable to work with children. Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding practices and follow the correct procedures if they have any welfare concerns. Managers observe staff regularly and give them constructive feedback to help them develop the quality of their practice. Staff attend regular training to improve their knowledge and to benefit children's learning. For example, as a result of training, staff now provide very good learning experiences to help children learn about different people, their cultures and communities. Staff work well with other early years providers when the time comes for children to move on. Managers take into account the views of staff, parents and others, which helps them to continually maintain a good service.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gain relevant information from parents, such as during settling-in visits, and through their ongoing observations of children's play. They use such information to assess children's learning and to cater for their needs and interests effectively. Staff explain activities well to children. Children are excited and well-motivated to try new experiences. For example, they use their creativity well as they roll, pat and cut play dough into different shapes, and explain what they have made. Young children experiment with compost to find out how fresh vegetables can fit into planting pots. Staff interact well with children and read stories to them. Children keenly share thoughts about their favourite pictures. Older children confidently suggest what might happen next in stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models for children. For example, they use praise to motivate children to behave well in positive ways, and support their social and emotional skills effectively. Children learn to share resources fairly and take turns. Young children learn to socialise with others. Staff help children adopt healthy lifestyles and meet their dietary requirements well. For example, children understand the importance of personal hygiene to reduce the risk of infection. They know that fruit and vegetables help them grow and develop. Staff check the premises and resources regularly, to ensure children can engage in both indoor and outdoor activities safely.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and any gaps in their learning are closing. Young children learn new rhymes and explore resources with care. Older children know letters and sounds and can write words, such as their names, correctly. Children are aware of the changes that happen to the natural world around them. For example, they know that cress seeds need water and sunlight to grow.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423237
Local authority	Hillingdon
Inspection number	1131186
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Little Crickets Learning Centre Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530445
Date of previous inspection	18 August 2015
Telephone number	01923 545530

Little Crickets Learning Centre registered in 2011. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm and operates all year. The provider receives funding to offer free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status and five have appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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