

Inspection of Little Monstarz Preschool

St. Lukes Church Hall, Laburnum Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 4LQ

Inspection date: 26 February 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are confident to come into the setting, where staff warmly welcome them and their parents and carers. They are eager to begin their learning. Staff plan a varied curriculum to help children become confident and independent learners. For example, children problem solve as they make a large floor puzzle, working together to complete it and identify all the animals, such as giraffe, zebra and toucan. Staff tailor activities to make sure that children gain from them. For example, staff help children to put paint on their feet, and they encourage them to move as different animals, making prints on the large sheet of paper. This supports children's imagination, creativity, personal, social and emotional development and their communication and language as they talk about the animals and the prints. Younger children learn the different colours and names of different animals.

Staff know the children well. When children first start, staff gather information about what the children know and then plan what they need to learn next to help them make good progress. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported.

Children's behaviour is good. Older children help younger children to remember the rules. For example, they help a younger child to remember not to run with their socks on, as they may slip. Staff are positive role models in the way they speak to the children and each other. This supports children in showing respect and valuing each other.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Partnership with parents is good. Parents feel that staff know their children well and that they are particularly good at communicating what their children are learning and involve them in what they need to learn next. Parents state their children are well prepared for the move to school.
- The manager and deputy work well together to provide strong leadership for the team. There is a good staff-to-child ratio, and staff know how to meet children's care and learning needs. Managers encourage staff to attend training on core subjects such as safeguarding and first aid. In addition, the manager supports staff to complete relevant qualifications at level 3 and work towards level 5.
- Children enjoy listening to stories during both group story time and individually with a member of staff. Children's communication and language and their personal, social and emotional development are given priority. Staff work with other agencies to support children's speech and language development. They provide activities that help children to work with other children to build good relationships with the children and the staff.
- There are good systems to monitor and evaluate the provision. Staff have

regular meetings with parents, as well as support from the local authority, to help them to identify what is working well and what needs to be improved. The manager and staff evaluate how they use the indoor and outdoor space to best support children. However, at times, they do not make good use of the outdoor area to give children the opportunity to develop their large physical skills, increase their fitness and use the outdoor equipment.

- The manager and deputy are particularly good at putting all the relevant procedures in place to help children with SEND, such as supporting their move on to school in order to make the transition smoother. Parents involved in this process appreciate the staff and feel they go over and above for their children.
- Staff prepare children for the next stage in their learning or the move to school well. They support children to develop their listening skills, to regulate their own behaviour and to be able to communicate their needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with daily opportunities to use the outdoor area, particularly to support those children who are more active than others, to develop their physical skills and promote good health.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2766961
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10327842
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Roseway, Zoe-Ann
Registered person unique reference number	2766963
Telephone number	07484929936
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Monstarz Preschool registered in November 2023 and operates from the church hall in Newton Abbot. The setting operates Monday to Friday, 8am until 5.30pm, during term time only. There are five members of staff, all of whom have early years qualifications. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lorraine Sparey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the pre-school received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager and discussed the findings.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the curriculum and how staff ensure children are making good progress.
- The inspector spoke to parents, to gain their views.
- The inspector completed observations in the playroom and spoke to staff and children at different times throughout the inspection.
- A meeting was held with the manager, and the inspector viewed documentation such as staff records.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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