

Inspection of Little Gruffalos

117 Cherry Tree Lane, Beverley HU17 0AY

Inspection date: 8 March 2022

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 and parents are greeted warmly by the friendly and caring staff. Children enter the setting happily and quickly settle into the familiar routine. Staff support children through a strong key-worker system. This helps staff to support children's individual needs and ensure their education and care needs are met.

Children are encouraged to explore their feelings and talk about their fears. Staff use activities to channel children's worries and talk about why they may be upset. For example, children make dream catchers and sensory bottles to use and focus discussion. Children behave well. Staff support them to manage their feelings and resolve minor disputes. Children respond well to instructions from staff. They are reminded how to keep themselves safe, both within the environment and outside. Children are reminded to slow down in the setting to avoid accidents and use their 'walking feet'.

Staff understand where children are at in their learning and development. They recognise the impact COVID-19 has had on children's social and emotional development and speech and language development. As a result, staff accurately identify children's next learning steps and implement targeted approaches to achieve children's individual goals.

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

- Staff have a good awareness of children's starting points. Regular observations and children's current interests allow staff to plan a curriculum that supports what children need to learn next. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Children are supported well to develop a love of books. Storytelling is used to extend children's language as they talk about what words mean and expand their vocabulary. Staff are skilled at capturing children's interest in stories. Older children listen intently as staff bring characters alive. Staff encourage children to make predictions about what will happen next.
- Staff promote mathematical development well through everyday activities. They encourage the children to count the number of children and number of plates and cups needed for snacks. Children begin to recognise numbers as they talk about the dates and months. This enables children to become familiar with numbers in the environment.
- Children's independence is promoted well. They have opportunities to practise putting on their shoes and coats. Independence is encouraged from an early age as children access their own drinks. They take turns with helping with the washing up following snack time and take pride in their 'jobs'. Staff praise

children for their efforts and achievements. This raises their self-esteem.

- Parents spoken with express complete satisfaction with the care and education provided for their children. They acknowledge the staff act as advocates to support their children and acquire additional support when needed. They appreciate the care given to their children and are aware of the key-worker system in place.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, leaders continued to support parents and children. They implemented the curriculum for those who still attended the setting. They ensured that for those who could not attend, their parents continued to receive information and guidance, to support children's education and welfare at home.
- Staff receive regular supervision from leaders and report they are well supported. Staff contribute to the evaluation of the setting and identify areas to improve. The manager places a high priority on the well-being of staff. As a result, staff feel valued and enjoy working at the setting. Leaders carry out observations of staff teaching practises to identify training needs. However, leaders do not fully support staff to make full use of everyday opportunities to extend children's learning. For example, they do not identify and disseminate good practice between colleagues to take children's education to a higher level.
- Children understand the importance of being active and how movement can contribute to healthy bodies. Staff talk about feeling hearts beat as children jump up and down. However, staff do not fully engage all parents, to make them more aware of how healthy eating and healthy packed lunches contribute to overall good health.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff and management demonstrate a robust understanding of how to keep children safe and ensure their welfare is paramount. They engage with other agencies to promote children's well-being. Staff are trained to identify the potential signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect, in addition to wider aspects of safeguarding. They carry out risk assessments to ensure the premises are safe and secure. They monitor accidents and identify any risks to be removed or minimised.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend parent's and children's understanding of how healthy eating habits contribute to their overall health
- strengthen ways of developing peer-on-peer observations to enable staff to share good practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY560095
Local authority	East Riding of Yorkshire
Inspection number	10191165
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 12
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Beverley Cherry Tree Community Centre CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP560094
Telephone number	01482 865227
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Gruffalos was registered in the current format in 2018. It was previously registered as Tree Tops Pre-School from 1996. Care is provided for children aged eighteen months to 12 years. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 7am until 6pm, these times include wraparound care for school aged children. The provision is open throughout the year apart from one week at Christmas. The centre employs eight members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, one member of staff holds early years professional status and seven staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 to 6. The provision receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dawn Woodhouse-Wykes

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.

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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