

Busy Bees at Plymouth

Seaton Court, 2 William Prance Road, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 5WS



Inspection date

11 November 2015

Previous inspection date

8 February 2012

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 quality of teaching is very strong. Staff expertly challenge children at every opportunity. Consequently, children make excellent progress in all areas of their development, which prepares them extremely well for the move to school.
- Staff provide superb support for disabled children and those who have special educational needs. Outstanding partnerships with external professionals allow staff to follow consistent strategies and personal plans, which they review regularly. As a result, children receive excellent help in their learning.
- Links with parents and other settings that children attend are very strong to provide consistency in children's care and learning.
- Managers are highly successful in leading and supporting the staff team. Meticulous self-evaluation and reflective practice ensure that staff, parents and children are all highly involved in the setting's continual improvement, in pursuit of excellence.
- Since the last inspection, management has worked hard to develop assessment arrangements to enable them to monitor children's progress and identify learning patterns between groups of children. This ensures excellent outcomes for all children.
- Staff are extremely good role models and very successfully help children understand how to share and take turns. This helps children to very quickly develop high levels of confidence to solve problems in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the outdoor learning opportunities further for pre-school children to increase literacy and exploration.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during their self-chosen play, both indoors and outdoors, staff's planned activities, and the resources and learning environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection, and took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including planning, children's assessment records, policies and procedures, and staff's training and qualifications.

Inspector

Sarah Madge

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Management has an extensive understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. Safeguarding is highly effective. All staff have a robust knowledge of safeguarding procedures and recognise how to refer concerns, seek support and promote children's welfare. High staff-to-children ratios enable staff to closely supervise children and successfully extend their learning. Regular support meetings show the management's strong commitment to sustaining high-quality teaching staff. Staff demonstrate a strong enthusiasm to further their professional development and identify training that links to their own interests. This has led to training to incorporate more music and singing in the toddler room to extend children's vocabulary and confidence to communicate.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Thorough arrangements for observing and assessing what children know and can do helps key persons very successfully plan activities for each of their key children. They use children's individual next steps to provide personalised learning that is unique to them. As a result, children flourish and make excellent progress in all areas of development from their starting points. The staff team shows real enthusiasm for their work through their fun and positive activities and interactions with children. Babies receive ample time, space and encouragement to learn to walk and become mobile. Staff support toddlers to track the movements of snails outdoors to see how far they have travelled. Older children use their fingers to expertly form letters in melted ice water. Children are very confident communicators. Toddlers and pre-school children routinely have plenty of time to think and answer questions to express their ideas. The outdoor play space for pre-school children offers less inspiring opportunities to strengthen their literacy and exploration.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff create an extremely nurturing and welcoming environment where children form very secure attachments. They work very closely with parents to plan a personalised approach to help children when they move to a new room. This means that children settle in exceptionally quickly. Children are extremely confident and eagerly take responsibility for their own care needs, such as dressing themselves. They behave superbly, clearly and calmly expressing their views to others, and respond positively to staff's consistent praise and encouragement. Staff routinely prompt children to think about their own safety. For example, they ask them to consider why it is not safe to sit on an unstable high seat, next to their friends who sit on the floor.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in all areas of learning and enjoy well-thought-out activities that challenge them individually.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435253
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	822848
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	83
Number of children on roll	108
Name of provider	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	8 February 2012
Telephone number	01752767411

Busy Bees at Plymouth registered in 2011. It is one of a chain of nurseries run by Busy Bees Nurseries Limited, based in Staffordshire. It operates from a purpose-built single storey building on a science and technology park in Plymouth. The nursery is open from 7am to 6pm each weekday all year round and offers holiday care for school aged children. The nursery employs 28 staff, 22 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 2. Two staff hold degree level qualifications.

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