

Hungry Caterpillars Pre-School at Stanburn First School



Stanburn First School, Abercorn Road, STANMORE, Middlesex, HA7 2PJ

Inspection date	25 February 2016
Previous inspection date	24 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 management team is very keen for children to be able to learn new skills so that that they can progress rapidly. Staff have very high expectations of all children. Their commitment to planning effective learning opportunities and using exciting resources ensures that children make outstanding progress and are very well prepared for school.
- Children are happy and confident; this helps them to settle quickly into the setting. As a result, they show that they feel secure and safe. They develop extremely positive relationships with their key person and other children.
- Staff offer excellent support to disabled children and those with special educational needs, including children who speak English as an additional language. They provide individual care and work extremely well with outside agencies to support their learning.
- Parents welcome the extremely effective communication. There are regular opportunities to talk to staff about how well their children are learning.
- Monitoring procedures are extremely robust; they enable staff to quickly identify and address any areas of learning that children find more difficult.
- Staff are encouraged to develop their childcare knowledge through completing advanced qualifications. Staff have attended safeguarding and first-aid training courses. Staff use their knowledge well to ensure that children are kept safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children's independent learning further by helping them to access new technologies.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and operations manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Emma Merva

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection and the procedures that they should follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Recruitment processes are very secure to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Both the area manager and nursery manager make outstanding use of supervisions and appraisal procedures. Self-evaluation is excellent. It is carried out regularly and is accurate at identifying areas of practice that could be further developed, such as children's access to new technologies. The views of staff, parents and children are taken into consideration when planning the curriculum, so that children have a wide variety of topics on offer to expand their learning opportunities. Staff have developed outstanding relationships with the local primary school that children move on to and share information well about children's progress and development. The key-person system is very effective and the checking of children's progress is done regularly. As a result, any gaps in learning can be addressed quickly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The pre-school is well resourced with high-quality play equipment. Staff plan fun and interesting activities, which encourage children to become keen and independent learners. Well-qualified and skilful staff make outstanding use of daily routines to develop children's understanding. During circle time, staff use exceptional questioning methods to help children to make outstanding progress with their social and counting skills. During a group-time activity a member of staff uses a song and hidden props, so that children zealously join in and guess what might be next. This aids children's communication and concentration skills. Parents are very positive about the communication between the pre-school and home. They say that the magic moment stickers help to share developments in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy and excited to learn in this warm and welcoming environment. The relationships are warm and friendly between adults and children. There are excellent behaviour management systems to help children to develop an effective understanding of right and wrong. As a result, their behaviour at all times is exemplary. Children are given many responsibilities for their own learning. For example, they self-register during circle time. Staff work effectively with children in groups, so that they can learn to share toys and take turns. Children have outstanding opportunities to understand about healthy lifestyles through the stretch and grow exercise classes. At snack time they can choose from a range of healthy foods.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Adults support all children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, as well as children who speak English as an additional language, so that they all make outstanding progress from their individual starting points. They are extremely well prepared for school. They make outstanding progress with their literacy. For example, they are able to use letters and sounds very well so that they can read and spell words.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY419753
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1024365
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	61
Name of provider	Hungry Caterpillar Day Nurseries Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2011
Telephone number	0208 385 8292

Hungry Caterpillars Pre-School at Stanburn First School was registered in 2011. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, and six hold a qualification at level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status and one with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.50am until 3.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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