

Hedgehog Hill Day Nursery & Pre-School

42 High Street, Greens Norton, TOWCESTER, Northamptonshire, NN12 8BA



Inspection date	8 May 2017
Previous inspection date	4 June 2013

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 fully supportive of staff's ongoing professional development. They are committed to reflective practice and continue to set themselves extremely high standards and very well-targeted plans for the future development of the nursery.
- Children thrive in this superbly welcoming and fun environment. The staff are all highly skilled in helping children to feel safe and secure, ensuring children develop exceptionally positive attachments to them.
- Children make rapid progress in their learning. Well qualified, knowledgeable staff are highly skilled in teaching children and in meticulous planning around their interests and exciting topics. Very positive and sensitive interaction between staff and children during play supports children's enthusiasm to take part.
- Parents and carers are very happy with the nursery. They comment on the significant progress their children make, particularly in their confidence and independence and about the excellent range of activities, both indoors and outside, that the staff provide.
- Children's safety and well-being is given high priority by staff who are extremely vigilant in their supervision. They are successful in enabling children to consider potential risks in their chosen activities and to take action to minimise any risk.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even more ways to extend most-able children's deeper thinking during discussions and activities.

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, the operations manager and with three members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers through written feedback provided and through speaking to a number of them during the inspection.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a very secure knowledge of how to keep children safe and promote their welfare. The commitment to promoting knowledge and practice to the highest level through robust supervision and monitoring results in a confident and highly successful staff team. Management are highly effective in checking the progress that different groups of children make. This results in swift action being taken to address any identified gaps. Additional funding is used in highly effective ways to support children's specific needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All children are highly motivated to take part in a wealth of interesting activities. Babies show delight and curiosity as they crawl in and out of the sand tray, feeling the texture and watching as the sand sprinkles between their fingers. Toddlers explore the texture of foam. Staff expertly promote children's developing vocabulary as they play alongside children. Toddlers solve problems as they realise the foam will spread more easily if they add water. Pre-school children are fascinated when they take part in activities that link to a favourite story. They use an abundance of mathematical language as they count, check their totals and sort jelly beans into number groups and colours. Staff significantly enhance children's learning through their exceptional interactions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate a strong sense of well-being and belonging. They are very confident and clearly know the staff very well. Detailed and individually planned procedures for settling in and moving group rooms ensure they are well prepared. Close working partnerships with parents result in children's individual needs being managed very well. Children behave extremely well. Staff are excellent role models for the children. They help them to develop social skills, to share and work together. Children are actively encouraged to develop their physical skills. Children are provided with hearty meals and snacks that fully take account of their stages of weaning, and other specific dietary needs.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make swift progress from their unique starting points. They are able to build on what they already know, develop independence in their self-care and make choices about what they do. Children develop excellent mathematical understanding as they recognise numbers and shapes. They develop close friendships. These are key skills which result in children being exceptionally well prepared for moving on to school when the time comes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY458492
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1066643
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Best Start Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531224
Date of previous inspection	4 June 2013
Telephone number	01327 323 012

Hedgehog Hill Day Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2013 and is managed by Best Start Nurseries Ltd. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and 6, including two with early years professional status or early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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