

Milestones Day Nursery

The Norman Centre, Bignold Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 2QZ



Inspection date

6 July 2017

Previous inspection date

5 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager and staff build good relationships with parents. Staff share information with them about children's learning and welfare. Parents value this exchange of information and feel reassured that their children are safe and well supported.
- The staff work well together to ensure children's needs are met. They communicate effectively and are confident to seek support where needed. The manager successfully checks staff's performance to ensure consistently good-quality teaching.
- Some staff demonstrate very high-quality teaching. They question children skilfully and follow their ideas and interests as they play. Staff give children time to think and respond to questions, and suggest ways to extend their learning. This helps children to progress well.
- Children build secure attachments with staff. They enjoy playing alongside them and talk to staff about their life beyond the setting. Staff listen and respond well to children's needs, which helps children to feel valued, safe and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- During the session changeover time in the toddler room, opportunities for children to play and explore are more limited than at other times. Despite encouragement from staff, children briefly lose motivation to learn.
- Sometimes, staff do not consider the availability of space for children to freely move around in the baby room. Unused resources and activities occasionally impede children from having maximum opportunity to practise their physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's learning experiences during session changeover periods in the toddler room so that children continue to maintain high levels of interest, engagement and motivation to learn
- consider the use of space in the baby room when planning activities so that children benefit from having maximum opportunity to freely explore and move around.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership team is committed to the continued development of the provision. They reflect on the needs and learning of those children who attend and target improvements to secure their continued good progress. Staff are supported to complete childcare qualifications and further training in order to enhance their skills and understanding. They share their knowledge and experiences with others to help them develop their role. Safeguarding is effective. The vigilant manager leads effective safeguarding practice. Policies and procedures are implemented rigorously and staff know their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. The manager draws on other professionals' expertise to ensure that those children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are fully supported in their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff continuously assess children's level of development and promptly implement targeted plans to address any concerns with their progress. Children who speak English as an additional language communicate confidently with others. They build on their understanding and use of English. They also use body language and gestures to communicate their needs. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities have targeted learning plans which are developed by staff to secure children's continued development. Staff build on children's interests to keep them engaged and interested. Children play imaginatively. Staff join in with their play and follow their ideas. Children listen with interest to stories and excitedly recall familiar parts of the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to be independent and develop a sense of responsibility. They serve themselves food at lunchtime and use cloths to wipe up any spillages. This helps children to learn about how to manage risk for themselves. Healthy eating is promoted well in the setting. Children benefit from healthy, balanced and nutritious food throughout the day. They grow vegetables which they eat in the nursery, and staff talk to them about how to be healthy. Staff encourage children to try new foods and praise them for their efforts. Children enjoy playing outdoors. They climb, dig and confidently move around, choosing from the wide range of opportunities available. Staff are good role models for children. They are caring and polite, and remind children to use good manners and to be kind to their friends. Children learn to value and respect others. They are keen to share resources and welcome others into their play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well from their starting points. Their personal, social and emotional development are promoted well. Children become confident and develop good social skills. They communicate well with each other and enjoy taking part in the opportunities available to them. Additional funding is used effectively to enhance children's experiences and to target weaker areas of development in order to help them to catch up with their peers. Children are prepared well for the next stage in their learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY472339
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1088261
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	155
Name of registered person	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Registered person unique reference number	RP900844
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2014
Telephone number	01603213294

Milestones Day Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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