

Poppies Nursery

C/O Community Link Children's Centre, Beechwood Road, Luton, LU4 9RD



Inspection date	13 February 2018
Previous inspection date	16 December 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

- Managers at the nursery are very passionate about their work with the children. They inspire the staff to aim for the highest quality of care for children. The important views of parents, children and staff are actively sought and their ideas are valued and incorporated when implementing new developments. Managers work very closely with staff to implement any improvements that are identified.
- Children rapidly build close bonds with their key person and other staff at the nursery. They thrive in the staff's care and rapidly become confident and settled. Children are very happy and demonstrate that they feel safe. Through frequent praise and encouragement, children rapidly develop their self-esteem.
- Staff provide an exceptional range of highly challenging and interesting activities that children enjoy. This inspires children to fully engage, explore and develop their own ideas during their learning experiences.
- Children have excellent opportunities to rapidly develop their physical skills. They delight in playing on the extensive range of climbing frames, pedal bicycles and bridges. Children excitedly explore their local environment, looking at nature during walks and outings.
- Staff have built very close working partnerships with other settings that children attend. They frequently share their records of achievement for children. This helps to support continuity of care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider extending the already excellent arrangements to support all parents in guiding their children's learning at home.

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 evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the childcare operations manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff place children's safety and welfare as the highest priority in all they do. They have an extensive knowledge about the signs and symptoms of abuse. Staff know the procedures to follow and who to contact with any such concerns in the local authority. They keep fully updated with any new developments through frequent training. Children from a young age delight in learning to identify hazards. They enjoy searching the outdoor area with a list of potential hazards. Children collect any hazards, including stones and twigs and place them in a container to support the safety of all the children using the play area. Staff are very well supported by senior staff. During highly effective supervision meetings together, they identify further training that helps to develop their own skills and knowledge. Staff are provided with mentors that help to further support staff's ongoing development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff understand the importance of continuing to develop the partnerships with parents to provide an even more extensive range of ideas and ways that parents can further support their children's development at home. Staff frequently evaluate the assessments and observations of children's development to identify any areas for support and rapidly identify their next steps in learning. Staff work very closely with other professionals to provide targeted support where needed. Children's language and communication development is skilfully supported by the staff's highly effective interactions. Staff use sign language and pictures to help children communicate, and repeat words back to them to support their pronunciation. Children are challenged during story sessions to predict what may happen next and talk about what they see in the pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave exceptionally well. They quickly learn to share and take turns without adult support. Staff use opportunities at mealtimes to develop children's understanding about the food they eat. They talk about what food is good for them and staff challenge children to describe what food tastes and looks like. Children talk about foods that are treats. Through an extensive range of activities, children learn about each other's beliefs and the festivals they celebrate. Staff promote excellent hygiene practices and children talk about washing the germs away from their hands before mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make very rapid progress in their learning. They are exceptionally well prepared for their next stage of learning and for their move on to school. Children from a young age rapidly develop their independence. They eagerly tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them and learn to serve themselves food at mealtimes. Children learn to cut up their own fruit and delight in counting the number of pieces of grape and apple they have to eat.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417021
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	1065604
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	106
Name of registered person	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Registered person unique reference number	RP900844
Date of previous inspection	16 December 2013
Telephone number	01582-495029

Poppies Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff, 17 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm during term time and from 8.15am until 5.15pm during school holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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