

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bishops Stortford St Michaels Mead



Turners Crescent, St Michaels Mead, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire
CM23 4FZ

Inspection date 14 February 2019
Previous inspection date 17 July 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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

- Since the last inspection, the newly appointed manager has made considerable changes and improvements to the nursery. The changes include reviewing the appearance of the nursery, updating toys and resources and developing staff's knowledge of behaviour management. The manager has also implemented more effective planning to ensure each child's learning needs are carefully considered.
- Children develop caring relationships with staff and enjoy the interaction they receive from them. The effective key-person system ensures that every child's individual needs are met effectively.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend are strong. Key persons work well with parents to involve them in their children's learning. For example, parents help to decide on children's next steps in learning and share progress made at home with their child's key person.
- The management team places great emphasis on the nursery's continuous improvement. All managers, staff, parents and children are involved in the nursery's self-evaluation and improvement plans. Parents state that they feel able to influence change within the provision and that their views are listened to and acted upon.
- At times, staff do not allow children enough time to consider their responses to questions before answering for them.
- Occasionally, staff do not promote children's critical thinking well enough during planned activities, to enable them to fully explore their learning and extend their knowledge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children are provided with time to think, consider and express their responses to questions
- review how staff deliver planned and adult-led activities to ensure that children's learning is fully extended.

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 observed an adult-led activity and evaluated it with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the regional director, manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.

Inspector
Lynn Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff and managers understand their responsibilities with regards to protecting children. Staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge, for example through face-to-face and online training courses. The management team monitors and reviews staff's safeguarding knowledge well. The manager has effective arrangements for the professional development of staff. She meets with every staff member regularly and reviews their ongoing suitability, training needs, work-life balance and individual children in their key-person group.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy learning. They are keen and active participants in a wide range of stimulating learning experiences. Staff use their knowledge of each child to accurately assess their progress and plan effectively for their future learning. Children articulate their feelings well. They tell staff about their likes and interests and share experiences from home with their friends. Staff build on children's learning at home. For example, they create a 'world of dinosaurs' and plan exciting activities based on a dinosaur theme, to extend children's interests in prehistoric animals. Staff encourage children to take a print of the dinosaur's feet in sand, and estimate which one is the biggest. Children are encouraged to explore their senses when they use a range of herbs at the 'play dough' stations. They smell the herbs and talk about how they feel. Older children recognise letters that are in their names, from writing in wall displays around the nursery rooms.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and settled at the nursery. They actively explore the environment, making good use of the available space indoors and outdoors. Staff encourage children to move resources from one area to another to develop and extend their games. Children learn how to take care of their personal needs. They use the 'self-help' stations situated in the rooms for older children to look at themselves in the mirror and wipe their faces clean. Children enjoy being fit and active, they throw and catch balls, ride trikes and cars and enjoy painting pictures on the external walls with water. Children explore learning outdoors throughout the day and make choices over whether they play inside or outside. Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks, which are prepared on site. They explore a range of different foods from around the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the skills they require to be confident in the move to their next stage of learning, such as school. Children are independent and enjoy making choices over their play. Some older children participate in the pre-school committee. This enables them to make suggestions about future activities, based on the children's interests.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125064
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10091554
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	97
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900809
Date of previous inspection	17 July 2018
Telephone number	01279 755522

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bishops Stortford St Michaels Mead registered in 1999. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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