

Little Sparrows Day Nursery

Little Sparrows Day Nursery, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN8 9EJ



Inspection date	18 April 2019
Previous inspection date	7 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff form strong partnerships with parents and involve them in every aspect of their children's learning. Parents receive detailed feedback about their children's good progress and interesting ways to support children's learning at home. Parents value how staff know their children very well and feel the nursery is their child's second home.
- The well-qualified staff team is nurturing and builds secure bonds with children in this welcoming nursery. Staff visit children and their family in their home prior to attending the nursery to help build early relationships. The effective key-person system fully supports children to swiftly settle.
- The manager and staff strive for excellence. They are reflective and regularly evaluate the provision they offer using a variety of methods.
- The extensive and inviting outdoor areas provide children with wonderful opportunities for learning. The arrangement of resources ensures that children are able to make independent choices. Staff effectively demonstrate how large apparatus is versatile. This motivates children to assess their own risks and provides them with very good challenges that develop their physical skills.
- Staff do not fully support all children who speak English as an additional language to use their home language in order to further enhance their speaking skills.
- Occasionally, staff do not adapt their teaching to provide the more able children with the best possible opportunities to further challenge their problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for all children to develop and use their home language
- enhance the quality of teaching to the highest level to provide the more able children with further challenge.

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 and deputy 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 also took account of their written views.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. The deputy manager monitors children's progress thoroughly and takes swift action to address any gaps in children's learning. Regular supervision meetings and good training opportunities strengthen staff's knowledge. Recent training has increased staff's awareness of using music to extend children's engagement in activities. Staff take pride in their individual professional development. The deputy manager also visits other settings to share practice and enhance her knowledge. Effective partnerships with other professionals support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff's detailed observations and assessments of children's learning support the flexible planning system that consistently incorporates children's individual interests. All children are inquisitive individuals and keen to learn. Younger children drop different items onto the floor and are fascinated to hear the sound they make and if they roll. Staff effectively promote all children's language skills. For example, they consistently respond to younger children's early vocalisations. This helps them to learn the pattern of speech. Staff help older children with the clear pronunciation of words. Group time for older children is a positive experience. They respond to staff's use of intonation in their voice as they read them their chosen stories. This supports children's listening and attention skills. Older children develop the small muscles in their hands in preparation for writing. For example, they persevere to cut a range of materials and card using scissors.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are positive role models. They use good manners and encourage children to do the same. Staff have high expectations of children. Older children confidently carry out age-appropriate responsibilities without being asked to do so. Children behave well. Staff provide children with nutritious healthy foods that are freshly prepared on the premises. They ensure that mealtimes are a valuable learning opportunity and social occasion. From a young age, children show caring relationships. For instance, they eagerly help their friends to settle to sleep as they gently rub their backs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent individuals who manage their own personal needs. They use a wide range of technology equipment, such as a microphone linked to a computer. Children link sounds to the letters that they represent. Some children independently write their own name and express a keen interest in books. All children gain the skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481468
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10076262
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Little Sparrows Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902401
Date of previous inspection	7 January 2016
Telephone number	01992 623222

Little Sparrows Day Nursery re-registered in 2014. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. This includes the deputy manager, who holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from 7.45am until 6pm Monday to Friday all year round, apart from bank holidays. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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