

Sunbeams Day Nursery

74 Peverell Park Road, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 4ND



Inspection date

23 January 2015

Previous inspection date

26 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff know the children well because they regularly observe them in their play and assess what they know and can do. They link closely with parents to find out about what children are learning at home. They make good use of all of this information to plan a range of interesting activities which challenge children to make good progress.
- Warm and caring relationships between staff and children are very evident. As a result, children settle well and enjoy coming to nursery.
- Leaders are committed to improving the quality of the nursery and have made significant improvements since the last inspection. For example, they now regularly check the quality of teaching and provide good support to ensure it improves. As a result, the vast majority of teaching is now good.
- Children are kept safe because staff and leaders have a good understanding of how to protect children. Good links with agencies such as children's social care and the local children's centre mean that parents are able to access the support they need when they face challenging circumstances.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some parts of the day are less well planned for and, during these times, children do not learn as much as they could.
- Leaders do not have a clear picture of how well all groups of children who attend the setting are progressing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the planning and organisation of sessions before mealtimes so that they are used effectively to help children learn as much as they can
- extend the monitoring of the progress made by groups of children so that leaders have a clear picture of how well all groups of children are doing.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning both indoors and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager and the registered provider.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including records of the progress children have made, the setting's self-evaluation and improvement plans and evidence of suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jane Burchall HMI

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children are keen to learn because staff provide them with activities that they are interested in. Young babies enjoy exploring how things feel, work and sound and are well supported by staff who are always close at hand to offer guidance and reassurance. Toddlers enjoy experimenting in the garden and are interested, for example, to find out what happens when you add water to sand. They learn how to use new vocabulary which is skilfully introduced to them by staff. Children in the preschool room work well together to build a den. Effective questioning by staff helps them to think about what they are doing and helps them to solve problems for themselves. On occasion, children become easily distracted when activities, such as those provided just before lunchtime, are not planned so well. Staff place a good focus on supporting all children to become confident communicators so that they are ready for the move to school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children are confident in the care of the adults who look after them. They easily turn to staff for help and reassurance showing they feel safe and secure. Staff are good role models. They have high expectations of children and as a result, children are well behaved. They positively reinforce children's behaviour and give clear explanations to help children understand why certain behaviour is not appropriate. Good focus is given to keeping children healthy and they have regular opportunities throughout the day to play in the fresh air. Although outside space is limited on-site, staff make good use of local community venues to give children wider experiences, including the use of their own local allotment where children learn how to grow their own vegetables.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Leaders have worked hard to bring about positive changes across the nursery. Staff now have a much better understanding of what children can do as systems to assess their progress and development have been improved. Effective systems to support staff development have improved staff qualification levels and staff's knowledge and understanding of how children learn. Leaders have a clear picture of the progress made by individual children in the setting. They work closely with staff to ensure assessments are accurate and that next steps are planned to ensure children continually develop. Good use is made of this information to identify any gaps in the curriculum. While the manager checks whether or not boys and girls make equal progress, she is aware that she now needs to extend her monitoring so that she understands the progress made by other groups of children who attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY311912
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1003874
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	82
Name of provider	Woodground Ltd
Date of previous inspection	26 February 2014
Telephone number	01752 661445

Sunbeams Day Nursery registered in 2005. It operates from an end of terrace house and is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery occupies the ground and first floor of the building, with office and staff facilities in a detached outbuilding. The toddlers and babies are cared for on the first floor with access by a flight of stairs. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round. There are currently 82 children on roll aged from birth to under five years. The nursery provides funded early education places for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 13 staff to work with the children. The manager is qualified to level 4 and one member of staff has Early Years Professional Status. One member of staff holds a relevant level 2 qualification and is working towards level 3. The remaining staff all have relevant level 3 qualifications. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who are learning English as an additional language.

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