

# Horseshoe Day Nursery

Sandowne Racecourse, Portsmouth Road, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9AJ



## Inspection date

16 February 2015

## Previous inspection date

24 March 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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff regularly consult with parents to make on-going improvements to the nursery and successfully involve them in children's learning and development. Parents speak positively about their involvement in children's learning and the nursery.
- Children are well prepared for their future and starting school because staff use the varied nursery resources effectively to promote their learning and development.
- Staff constantly use children's interests to plan a wide range of activities that promote their exploration, motivation to learn and help them understand the world.
- Children's good health and physical development is fully promoted through lots of opportunity for them to use the various outdoor play areas.
- All staff receive regular training that gives them a good knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and how to help to keep everyone in the nursery safe.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The nursery manager does not always identify and act on weaknesses in how staff communicate with babies. This sometimes affects how young children are able to build a sense of security.
- Staff in one of the toddler rooms are not always well deployed to support children's play. This is particularly evident as toddlers move freely between the indoor and outdoor play areas.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- develop the methods for monitoring staff practice so that weaknesses are identified and acted on promptly, with particular regard to the baby room
- improve staff deployment so that toddlers are well supported as they choose to move freely between the indoor and outdoor play areas.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in all indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector completed three joint observations with the nursery manager in the baby room, toddler room and garden.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of parents' views spoken to on the day of the inspection and from documentation.

## **Inspector**

Catherine Greenwood

## Inspection findings

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

Staff plan an exciting range of activities in response to children's interests that motivate and inspire them to learn. For example, children fill and empty containers in an outdoor mud kitchen. They negotiate space as they step between large car tyres and search for gold coins in sand whilst dressing up as pirates. Staff use forest school activities and events within the race course where the nursery is located to help children understand the world. Children with special educational needs are well supported. Most staff, especially those working in the pre-school, interact with children in a positive way. They teach them the skills they need for starting school and successfully develop children's language by asking open questions. For example, small groups of children confidently talk about their pets whilst painting detailed pictures of cats. Staff give them clues that successfully help them remember and talk about the meaning of words they have learnt. For example, they recall how to use 'extinction' and 'endangered'. Staff working with children in one of the toddler rooms stretch children's ability to learn the sounds of letters and link them to words. This enables them to reach above expected levels in this area of their learning and development.

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

Children play together cooperatively, concentrate well and persist with achieving their aims. For example, they build constructions with blocks and independently work out how to join squares and triangles to make complex designs. Staff fully value children's individual identity and invite parents into the nursery to read books in their home languages, such as Norwegian. There are several outdoor play areas that enhance children's exploration and physical development. For example, a large inflatable pod with soft play resources enables children to test and extend their skills. However, sometimes staff organisation does not support younger children's play fully as they move between areas.

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

Managers and leaders are clear about their roles in meeting the requirements of the Early Year's Foundation Stage. The organisation's early years quality improvement manager works closely with the staff team and parents association to drive improvement. Since the last inspection, the nursery manager has attended behaviour management training and shared new knowledge with the staff team. Consequently, they now use effective techniques to manage children's challenging behaviour in a more positive way. The manager monitors activities, children's progress and most aspects of staff practice well. However, occasionally a weakness in staff practice can be overlooked.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY374141
<b>Local authority</b>	Surrey
<b>Inspection number</b>	972637
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	88
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	95
<b>Name of provider</b>	Casterbridge Nurseries Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	24 March 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01372 473970

Horseshoe Day Nursery registered in 2012 and is run by Bright Horizons. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. It employs 23 members of staff, of which 19 hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a recognised qualification.

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