Lorraine Nursery





Inspection date	11 March 2015
Previous inspection date	13 May 2010

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meet range of children who attend	ts the needs of the	Good	2
The contribution of the early years provof children	ision to the well-being	Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and early years provision	management of the	Good	2
The setting meets legal requirement	s for early years setti	ngs	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children access a wide range of activities and experiences in this extremely well organised nursery. Staff are quick to observe and follow children's interests and build on their achievements,
- Staff offer to carry out a home visit before every new child joins the nursery. This illustrates the importance the staff place on developing powerful and effective working relationships with families from the start.
- Children become increasingly independent as they choose resources, help prepare snacks and follow clear hygiene routines across the day.
- Leadership and management have a thorough understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implement these effectively on a daily basis.
- Children are confident and well prepared for school as they share playground facilities with children in the adjacent reception class and see the way teachers manage class activities outdoors.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff have the depth of knowledge to use a broad range of skills to reduce delays in children's speaking skills as quickly as they would like.
- Systems for staff supervision are not fully effective in building on the strengths of the team and improving specific outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the range of methods staff use to encourage children to express themselves vocally and narrow delays in children's speaking skills from the earliest opportunity
- sharpen the focus of staff supervisions to ensure staff constantly improve their already well developed understanding and practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the nursery and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding and equal opportunities, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records, the nursery's planning, evaluation, and the information exchanged with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan and prepare an exciting range of activities that challenge children to explore and achieve new skills in every area of learning and development. Inquisitive children learn to sequence pictures of life-cycle changes, and marvel at new life, as they anticipate and celebrate chicks hatching. Staff follow children's lead in conversation and help them talk through, and think about, their interests. Consequently, staff are generally very effective in developing children's understanding and use of language. Staff work closely with parents to identify children's starting points and refer children quickly for additional support when they need it. However, staff do not always have the knowledge they need to close gaps in very young children's speaking skills, as early or as quickly as they would like. Longer-term assessments clearly track the good progress children make across every aspect of their learning during their time at the nursery.

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

Staff have an excellent understanding of the nursery's policies and procedures for safeguarding and protecting children's welfare. Children's well-being is the highest priority for staff from the day parents enrol their children. Close partnerships with staff at the linked children's centre help to secure appropriate interventions for children and more specialist support for families, as necessary. Staff work hard to involve all parents in their children's learning through daily written and verbal updates. This helps children practise new concepts and skills across the nursery and at home, and enables staff to build on children's current interests. Staff provide an exceptional range of learning environments, indoors and outdoors, where children play imaginatively together and learn to manage risks appropriate for their age.

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

A qualified early years teacher manages the nursery and works very closely with the other early years settings. The manager monitors the delivery of good-quality education programmes on a daily basis. Senior staff at the adjacent school note significant improvements in children's levels of confidence and skill since the nursery employed a qualified teacher. A very capable team of staff ably support the manager, who aspires to high standards of practice across the nursery. However, a new system of staff supervision lacks clarity and focus. This means that staff do not always identify the additional skills and support they require to improve outcomes for specific groups of children. Parents commend staff for their commitment to the children, who they say are eager to come to nursery each day. Parents are happy with their children's progress and with the information staff share with them on a routine basis.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY395618

Local authority Surrey

Inspection number 830668

Type of provision Full-time provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 38

Number of children on roll 56

Name of provider Lorraine School Governing Body

Date of previous inspection 13 May 2010

Telephone number 01276 65649

Lorraine Nursery registered in 2009. It is open each weekday during school term time. Sessions run from 8.45am to 11.45am and from 12 noon to 3pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. Of the six staff who work with the children, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and above, including the manager who holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery also employs an administrator.

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