

Little Echoes Day Nursery

Community Centre, Whitmoor Road, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5QE



Inspection date

16 March 2015

Previous inspection date

24 May 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff plan and provide children with inspiring, varied and purposeful learning environments. Children easily access toys and resources of their choice. This helps them gain independence, investigate their own interests and practise new skills.
- All staff use the same practical systems for recording children's achievements, evaluating their progress, and sharing this information with parents. These are based on a clear understanding of how children develop, and the benefits of prompt action to address any gaps or delays in learning.
- Staff place the highest emphasis on providing exceptional levels of individual care. Consequently, relationships between children and staff are very good and children flourish. This includes supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, as well as working closely with their families and external agencies.
- Staff demonstrate they understand how to protect and support children and teach children how to keep themselves safe and healthy within the nursery.
- Excellent partnerships between parents and staff strengthen the continuity in children's care and learning between home and the nursery.
- Children's care, welfare and learning are significantly enhanced by the very effective way in which the nursery is led and managed. Excellent use of reflective practice forms the basis of their driving improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for outdoor exploration with the babies and toddlers, so that they benefit from plenty of fresh air and access the local environment.

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 relating to safeguarding, staffing, equal opportunities and health and safety, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records and the nursery's systems for planning, evaluation, and exchanging information 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 outstanding

Children make extremely good progress in their learning and development at the nursery. This is because staff know children's strengths, clearly identify the next steps in their learning, and plan exciting opportunities to nurture their success. Young children enjoy rich learning experiences as they explore and experiment with water, sand, patterns, and textures. Staff help older children investigate animals that hibernate, and teach them the language to compare differences in size and features of dinosaurs and mini beasts. Staff enrich children's imaginative play with props and ideas as they act out different games and stories on their low stage. Staff promote high levels of self-confidence and effective speaking skills as children practise sharing their interests and listening to each other in their groups. Increasing levels of challenge and success prepare children well for their moves to school and activities in their wider community.

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

Staff prepare, and share, careful settling-in plans for each child entering the nursery. They base these on a wealth of information from parents and other carers. Staff in the baby team are particularly sensitive to each child's changing needs and skilfully balance a strong sense of security with plenty of new interests. All staff use the superbly equipped soft sensory play room to maximum effect, as well as the indoor cosy cabin. A large central play space provides an additional dry, clean area where staff encourage babies to crawl and older children join specialist music and fitness classes. Older children also benefit from plenty of fresh air as they enjoy easy access to outdoor gardens, a large courtyard and the adjacent playing field. However, a limited range of double pushchairs restricts the types of outdoor excursions staff plan for the babies and toddlers. This group therefore rarely explore the different natural habitats around the community centre. Indoor sleeping arrangements for babies and toddlers are excellent and well supervised.

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

Children in each age group benefit from teams of staff who balance enthusiasm, experience, and high levels of training. The manager diligently oversees every aspect of their daily practice to ensure that nurturing children's care and emotional well-being underpins every rich learning experience. Children and staff thrive in this happy and relaxed atmosphere. Parents say the calm, welcoming environment first attracts them. They are then reassured by their children's eagerness to attend the nursery each day. Parents commend the staff for their care, support, and attention to detail. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's nursery. Newsletters, library schemes, charitable events, and family fun days all contribute to the close partnership working that underpins children's progress and increasing self-confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440447
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	824520
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	83
Name of provider	Little Echoes Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2012
Telephone number	01276 453113

Little Echoes Day Nursery registered in 2012. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. There are 17 staff who work with the children, all of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and above. This includes four members of staff with relevant degrees, one of whom holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery also employs four support staff.

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