

Pixies Day Care

The Magnet Leisure Centre, Holmanleaze, MAIDENHEAD, Berkshire, SL6 8AW



Inspection date

24 March 2015

Previous inspection date

12 April 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 work well together and teaching is good overall. A wide range of stimulating resources and activities engage children well.
- Since the previous inspection, there has been good improvement for children to have access to mark-making materials throughout the day, and for children to self-select their activities from a broad range of resources.
- Children of all abilities feel safe in the welcoming and inclusive environment. As a result, they settle quickly and show respect for others.
- Staff teach children to follow good hygiene routines.
- Children know how to keep themselves safe when going outside for walks, as staff teach them to wear safety clothing. As a result, of recent safeguarding training staff use a 'ringed walking rope' for walks. Older children enjoy the responsibility of getting this out as they prepare for outings.
- Staff have clearly defined roles and work well together for the benefit of the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some staff do not extend children's learning during activities by asking useful questions to promote children's thinking and language skills.
- Staff miss opportunities at snack and meal times to extend children's awareness of healthy lifestyles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise all opportunities to extend children's language skills during activities by, for example, asking useful questions to encourage children to think and talk
- make the most of snack and mealtime routines to promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in their play inside and outdoors, and in their interactions with staff.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector toured the premises and checked risk assessment procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Tanisha Hodge

Inspection findings

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

Staff promote children's learning effectively. They organise the playrooms so children can freely choose toys and engage in planned activities. Overall, staff use good teaching skills as they model the use of resources and use questions to promote discussions that prompt children to think. However, on occasion, some staff miss opportunities to ask useful questions to extend children's learning. Staff support children learning English as an additional language effectively through gathering key words from parents, and by using flash cards and books. Activity plans cover all areas of learning and staff ensure they meet the individual learning needs of all children. Children make good progress in their learning and they are acquiring the skills they will need in readiness for school. For example, older children enjoy learning letter sounds with using of phonic flash cards.

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

Staff use clear hygiene routines to prepare and serve food. Children enjoy the healthy range of meals and snacks provided. However, staff do not consistently extend children's awareness of healthy lifestyles because they do not promote the benefits of healthy eating through discussion at mealtimes. Staff plan regular opportunities for children to spend time outside to gain fresh air and a good range of activities help promote children's physical development. Children are confident and lively, as they actively play and explore. They develop good skills for future learning through the good range of experiences provided, including free access to a soft-play area and a sensory zone. Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, children learn to manage their own hygiene, serve their own snack and pour drinks of water.

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

The provider follows robust recruitment procedures for staff and new staff induction is thorough. Staff receive regular supervision where they have time to discuss children's progress and their own development. Recent staff training has enhanced staff's understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. The manager makes effective use of risk assessments to minimise hazards within the indoor and outside environments to help keep children safe. The provider and manager reflect on practice and drive forward improvements to benefit children. Staff use effective arrangements for sharing information and working in partnership with parents. Staff work with parents and other professionals to support children who have additional needs to maximise the progress children make. Parents say they are pleased with the service they receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418443
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	832507
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	21
Name of provider	Laura Jane Smith
Date of previous inspection	12 April 2011
Telephone number	01628 685 333

Pixies Day Care registered in 2010. It is situated in The Magnet Leisure Centre in Maidenhead. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.45am to 6.15pm. There are eight staff and they all hold early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four.

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