

Hickory Dickory Dock Day Nursery Ltd



8 Warbler Place, Spennells, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 4DZ

Inspection date 29 May 2015
Previous inspection date 7 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The provider and staff adeptly use a range of assessment tools to thoroughly check children's development. They skilfully use this information and the views of parents and other agencies to plan rich, rewarding and relevant activities. These result in purposeful learning and outstanding progress.
- Babies and children relish the many exciting opportunities to observe, explore and experiment. They are enthralled by changes and different textures in mud and when making a 'volcano'. Babies and children eagerly check the progress of their hand-reared garden snails, the nursery's hamster and the plants they are growing.
- Provision for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is exemplary. Staff expertly align their knowledge of each child with other agencies' strategies in order to provide highly individualised teaching and support for each child.
- Babies and children flourish. The extremely kind and attentive provider and staff sensitively reassure and encourage them. They calmly help all children to settle, patiently supporting those children who find it more difficult to relate to others.
- Children are fully safeguarded. The provider and staff conscientiously follow the nursery's thorough safeguarding procedures to ensure children are kept safe and well. The provider and staff are vigilant, professional and highly effective as they work with other agencies and families to minimise the risks of harm to vulnerable children.
- Parents' views about their children's care, interests and abilities help staff to plan for children's needs. Staff give parents excellent feedback about their children's activities, progress and next steps for learning. Parents welcome the staff's advice about how to support their children's learning at home. They contribute in many different ways to their children's activities at nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already exciting, well-resourced learning environment by continuing to review the organisation and management of resources in the baby room during babies' and toddlers' free-play activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the two indoor play areas and the outside play space. The inspector carried out joint observations with the provider, who is also the manager, and with a deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times. She held meetings with the provider and senior staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the provider's self-evaluation form and plans for improvement.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery. She also looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

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

Babies and children thoroughly enjoy learning. The provider and staff inspire them to join in the many exciting activities. They skilfully direct their teaching to cater for each child's interests, differing abilities and future learning needs. Staff successfully foster each child's skills as effective learners in readiness for moving within the nursery or on to school. They adeptly interact with babies and children who increasingly concentrate, persevere and listen attentively. Staff very successfully promote babies' and children's communication skills. They draw on their considerable expertise and close links with speech and language therapists to help children to speak and, where appropriate, to use signing. Most children become very articulate speakers. They contribute to lively discussions, express ideas, recall stories and events and adeptly use language for thinking. Children are given an excellent grounding in early literacy and mathematics. They thoroughly enjoy stories, songs and rhymes and adeptly use numbers for counting and simple problem solving.

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

Babies and children are extremely happy in the nursery's welcoming, family atmosphere. They readily choose from a wealth of exciting resources which staff expertly use to enhance their learning. However, staff are reviewing the organisation of babies' and toddlers' free-play. They recognise that at times they offer too much choice, and so play areas become cluttered. Staff skilfully promote children's confidence, independence and positive relationships. Babies and children particularly enjoy shared social meals and fun outdoor activities. Therefore, children are socially and emotionally well-prepared for moves within the nursery and for starting school. Staff carefully supervise children. They adeptly promote their safe use of equipment and tools and awareness of road and fire safety. Staff conscientiously meet children's care and health needs and expertly develop their independence in seeing to their personal care. Children gain an excellent understanding of why it is important to be active, eat healthily and wash their hands properly.

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

The provider and staff are extremely dedicated and professional. They astutely monitor the effectiveness of the nursery's provision and very successfully make well-timed improvements. The provider and staff thoroughly check the quality of their teaching, activities and resources and how these impact on children's learning. They swiftly address any gaps in children's progress or the educational programme. Staff are well-qualified and highly skilled due to excellent staff recruitment, performance and development procedures. The quality of their care and teaching is outstanding. Staff adeptly carry out other duties. These include taking lead responsibility for an area of learning, safeguarding or the role of Special Educational Needs Coordinator. There are excellent relationships with parents, outside agencies and other providers. These ensure children's needs are precisely assessed and everyone applies consistent strategies for promoting these at nursery and elsewhere.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205430
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	854388
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	82
Name of provider	Sara Cookson
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2010
Telephone number	01562 827699

Hickory Dickory Dock Day Nursery Ltd opened in 1991. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, the provider, who is the manager, has a degree in Integrated Early Childhood Studies and nine members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for most bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Support is provided for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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