

Little Millers Day Nursery and Out of School Club

Mansfield Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL



Inspection date

5 June 2015

Previous inspection date

4 January 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

- The manager is forward thinking and knowledgeable. She inspires members of the management team and staff who are highly motivated and enthusiastic. They are all dedicated to providing a child-centred and very stimulating learning environment for all children.
- The manager, management team and staff team precisely tailor their planning and teaching to ensure each child's interests and abilities are expertly catered for. All children are helped to make outstanding progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children are emotionally secure, confident and self-assured. They develop positive relationships with adults and friends. This is because the key-person system is well established and highly effective.
- Children relish the nursery's inviting and highly stimulating resources and atmosphere. As a result, all children are eager to learn and are highly motivated.
- Excellent information sharing between the whole nursery staff team, parents and other professionals involved with the child is very thorough. All children benefit extremely well from a coordinated approach to their learning and meeting their individual needs.
- The manager, management team and staff team are conscientious and uncompromising in their efforts to minimise risks to children. The whole nursery staff team is very knowledgeable about the signs of abuse and procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care.
- Children are given an excellent understanding of how to promote their own good health and safety during activities, discussions and routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even more ways to offer children a smooth move on to school, for example, by extending the range of resources to help children familiarise themselves with their next setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the human resources manager of the organisation. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Judith Rayner

Inspection findings

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

The highly qualified staff team is very knowledgeable about child development. The quality of teaching is outstanding. Assessment of children's development is wholly effective. For example, staff use a very effective tracking system to easily identify if there are any gaps in either individual or groups of children's learning. They then use this knowledge to plan challenging activities to move children forward so that they make rapid progress. Children show high levels of ingenuity and imagination. For example, outside, staff have supported older children in making a fairy garden and dinosaur land. Staff skilfully interact with children, who eagerly take part in the many exciting activities. For example, babies excitedly hold soft sheets, shaking and bouncing props from a nursery rhyme. They show immense enjoyment and pleasure, clapping and smiling when the activity has finished. Children have time to become deeply involved in activities, which encourages them to concentrate and persist in their learning. This also helps them be very well prepared for the next stage in their learning and ready for their move to school.

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

Children feel very secure because staff work closely in partnership with parents to ensure they receive continuity in their care and learning. Furthermore, well-targeted early interventions and support for vulnerable families are highly effective and further strengthen this work. Continual positive praise and enthusiastic encouragement successfully promote children's self-esteem and exemplary behaviour. Staff expertly help children to be emotionally and socially ready for their moves within the nursery and starting school. The management team recognises the need to increase resources to assist children in the smooth move on to school. The garden areas are exceptionally well resourced, which encourages children to explore the natural environment. Children access a full range of activities indoors and outdoors, which covers all areas of learning very successfully.

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

The manager, management team and staff team are passionate and dedicated. Staff are highly qualified and experienced. All staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities in meeting the legal requirements. They embrace the excellent development and training procedures and fully understand how this has a positive impact, which benefits children extremely well. All staff skilfully drive improvements by rigorously checking children's progress and enhancing the range and quality of activities and resources. For example, previous recommendations have been significantly met. The whole nursery has revisited how resources are used to entice children in play. They have successfully achieved this by providing a calm, cosy and relaxing atmosphere where children thrive in their development. Recruitment procedures are robust. All staff receive a full induction and ongoing, thorough mentoring support. Links with outside agencies are very strong, and staff work closely with the local school to ensure consistency of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253260
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	866714
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	124
Name of provider	Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust
Date of previous inspection	4 January 2012
Telephone number	01623 622515 ex 3885

Little Millers Day Nursery and Out of School Club was registered in 2000. The nursery employs 25 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5 and 23 at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. It closes for one week at Christmas and all public bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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