

The Enchanted Wood Day Nursery



The Deanes School, Daws Heath Road, BENFLEET, Essex, SS7 2TD

Inspection date 31 July 2015
Previous inspection date 31 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

- The quality of teaching is excellent as staff provide a varied range of imaginative experiences based on children's interests, both inside and outdoors. Consequently, children of all ages are highly motivated, eager to learn and make excellent progress.
- Children are extremely happy, interested and self-assured in the stimulating and welcoming nursery. They have strong attachments to the staff who are very caring and attentive to their individual needs. This means children are able to explore the environment with confidence and are emotionally secure.
- The sensory garden offers children an extensive range of opportunities to develop their communication and language skills in a unique way. For example, while they build dens, make mud pies and dig in the sand in the enchanted beach, children talk to each other and staff in a relaxed and informal manner.
- Transition arrangements within the nursery and with local schools are excellent. There are excellent systems in place to support children as they move rooms within the nursery, which promotes a highly effective and seamless transition process.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents contribute to their child's assessments and are kept very well informed regarding their progress. This shared approach effectively supports children's learning, development and well-being.
- Robust safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and staff have completed relevant safeguarding training. Staff effectively translate their knowledge into practice to ensure that children's welfare is given high priority.
- The highly qualified management team demonstrate a significant capacity for continuous improvement and they continually reflect on the already exceptional service they provide.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich the excellent sensory and exploratory experiences of very young children further as they investigate the outdoor environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices in children's base rooms and garden.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager of the provision.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide babies and children with a rich, stimulating and exciting learning environment, both indoors and outdoors. For example, babies enjoy investigating bubbles as they mix together soap and water. Older children have a wonderful time as they mix together flour and hair conditioner. They delight as they watch it change into a doughy texture and squash and squeeze it using their fingers. Children develop their early reading and writing skills exceptionally well and show increasing confidence in recognising the sounds that letters make. Staff consistently praise very young children for their use of language, repeating words to reinforce children's understanding and pronunciation. Children are encouraged to write for different purposes and show increasingly accurate letter formation and spelling. Resources available to children are used very well to encourage counting, sorting and problem solving, which they approach with enjoyment and enthusiasm. Children are provided with endless opportunities to develop their physical skills. Regular exchanges of information about children's achievements and parents' positive contributions to children's assessments support learning at home.

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

Babies and children are wonderfully supported to settle into the nursery when they first start. This means that their emotional security is promoted exceptionally well. Children demonstrate strong independence skills and have an excellent understanding of self-care. Staff give high priority to the safety of children and effectively support their growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Staff are superb role models and provide clear and consistent guidance to promote positive behaviour. Children show exemplary kindness and respect to others as they share, take turns and play together in harmony. Risk assessments for all areas, including the outdoor equipment, are implemented effectively and staff ensure that children play and learn in safety.

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

There are robust, safe recruitment and induction processes in place for staff. Staff are continuously supported to develop their skills and knowledge through effective supervision and a review of their continuous professional development. There is a strong focus on high-quality teaching and there are opportunities for reflection and sharing excellent practice. Robust procedures for checking the quality of practice ensure that children receive a rich and challenging range of activities, including extensive outdoor activities. Managers effectively analyse assessment information, which means that potential learning needs are consistently recognised and quickly met. Insightful self-evaluation accurately identifies how the nursery can improve even further. For example, managers have correctly recognised that there are opportunities available to further enhance younger children's access to natural play equipment in the garden.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY438270 |
| Local authority | Essex |
| Inspection number | 853906 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 12 |
| Total number of places | 51 |
| Number of children on roll | 130 |
| Name of provider | The Enchanted Wood Day Nursery Limited |
| Date of previous inspection | 31 May 2012 |
| Telephone number | 01268774242 |

The Enchanted Wood Day Nursery was registered in 2012. It is open all year round from Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and one week in December. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 20 members of staff. Of these, 19 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including the manager who also holds an early years degree.

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