

Poppies Day Nursery

Crown Road, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 2QG



Inspection date

19 August 2015

Previous inspection date

12 November 2010

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

- Leadership is extremely strong and effective. The manager has robust systems in place for monitoring all aspects of nursery life. She is committed to making further improvements to the already good provision.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff know the children well, and plan interesting and challenging activities that help ensure all children make good progress.
- Staff make good decisions about when to lead children's play and when to allow children time to explore independently. As a result, children are developing into inquisitive learners who are well equipped for their future learning.
- Children are happy and confident as they go about their day. They see staff being kind, helpful and respectful, and so learn to behave in this way too.
- Staff meet children's care needs very well. They are flexible about their routines which enables children to rest or play at times that suit them the best.
- All staff understand the importance of ensuring children are safe and well cared for. They fully understand their responsibility to safeguard children and know what they must do if concerned about a child's welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Very young children's creative development is not always supported as well as it could be. Staff do not always organise activities so that these children can represent their own ideas when using paint, pens and collage materials.
- Staff do not always ensure that there is a wide range of technology-based resources available for older children to explore and use.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further opportunities for very young children to explore their creativity and represent their own ideas
- improve the range of technological resources available for older children to use independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their understanding of safeguarding, child protection and first aid.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff qualifications, policies and children's records.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

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

All children progress well in all areas of learning. Staff are skilled at what they do. They make good use of all opportunities to teach very young children new words and to support their developing physical skills. Older children enjoy making their own bubble mixtures and tending the vegetables they helped plant. Children enjoy lots of opportunities to join in with songs and stories. Older children enjoy choosing books to share and younger children dance along enthusiastically to favourite songs. Staff regularly observe all children and use this information to make accurate assessments about children's skills and abilities. They quickly identify when children are not making expected progress. They form highly successful partnerships with parents and other professionals to help close any gaps in learning. Staff lend resources and books to parents, which helps them continue their children's learning at home. They organise information evenings so that parents fully understand about the skills children need for a successful move to school; a move that staff ensure children are very well prepared for.

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

Children and parents are warmly welcomed into the nursery by staff. Children form close bonds with those who look after them and can't wait to share their news and begin their day. All children have daily opportunities to play in the fresh air and meals are varied and nutritious. As a result, children learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Staff show great interest in what children have to say which builds children's self-esteem. As a result, they confidently talk with visitors and are delighted to tell them all about their nursery and the fun they have. Staff ensure children are safe as well as happy. They routinely check for hazards and take the necessary steps to minimise any identified risks.

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

The manager and her deputy fully understand the responsibilities of their roles and work together to fulfil them. They place a high importance on helping staff develop new skills and improve what they already do through a comprehensive programme of training and supervisions. Staff appreciate these opportunities. The manager works with other staff to drive forward a programme of improvements. She ensures that staff organise the day so that children can make the very best use of their time at nursery. All staff are proud of the improvements they have made to the outdoor area since the last inspection. The manager's enthusiasm is infectious which helps ensure that the nursery is a happy place to be, for staff and children alike.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409400
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	831754
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Poppies Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2010
Telephone number	01628 487772

Poppies Day Nursery registered in 2010. It is part of a small chain of nurseries and is located in Marlow, Buckinghamshire. It is open each weekday, from 7.30am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year, excluding bank holidays. It is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. Of the 14 members of staff employed, 12 hold a relevant childcare qualification between level 3 and level 5.

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