

Inspection date	25 September 2015
Previous inspection date	20 May 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- All leaders have high expectations for all children to achieve well and to do their best. They have an outstanding understanding of how well children are doing and how to improve even further. Leaders check on the performance of staff very effectively, resulting in excellent development opportunities.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the nursery and feel that their children are well cared for. Parents say they are very well informed about their children's learning. All staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding procedures and how to make sure children are always safe.
- The nursery's physical environment is highly stimulating and supports learning well. It is very well resourced with a range of well-chosen toys and games, which engage children quickly and enhance their enjoyment of learning.
- Children are excited about coming into the nursery and being able to choose their favourite toy. The relationships between children and adults are warm and caring. As a result, all children feel secure, safe, happy and ready to learn.
- All children make outstanding progress from their starting points. They use their knowledge well to help make links with all areas of learning. This helps them to acquire a wide range of skills and enables them to become very well equipped for their next steps in education.
- Children are learning to be highly independent. For example, while hunting for spiders they found and used the magnifying glass together, practising the skill of sharing it between them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- assess more fully children's skills and knowledge on entering the nursery to further enhance and sustain their excellent progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery owner and manager.
- 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 viewed the areas of the premises, including the indoor and outdoor space.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the owner and nursery manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Emma Merva

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders relentlessly pursue excellence, which has a very positive impact on all children and all aspects of this outstanding nursery provision. This also makes sure that all staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding requirements and enables children to be safe. The arrangements for safeguarding are very effective. All staff are vigilant in maintaining a safe, physical environment. Reflective practice and comprehensive staff training is well embedded into the nursery's work. For example, rigorous systems are in place to both monitor and improve staff performance. The work of the nursery is regularly reviewed to determine what is going well and what needs to be improved further. Different groups and abilities of children are carefully measured to rectify any gaps in learning. The curriculum is very well planned. Examples of particularly strong practice include social skills, such as taking turns, and high-quality provision for mathematics and literacy. The nursery embeds key values, such as mutual respect, well-developed listening skills and respect for each other's property. The nursery forms highly successful links with local schools and other agencies to support children's continuity of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have an excellent understanding of children's needs. Adults work is focused on developing children's skills in all areas of learning. Particularly effective areas are support for speaking, listening and use of numbers. For example, adults pronounce and use words very carefully to make certain that children say them correctly and understand how to use them. Equally high-quality help is given to counting. Children are made carefully aware of daily expectations so they understand completely what is expected of them. This helps them grow as learners and prepares them well for future education. All children's learning is accurately tracked and shared well with parents. This enables all children to make excellent progress. However, managers recognise there is potential to enhance the assessment of skills and learning at the start of nursery to maximise children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are warmly welcomed and encouraged to settle in quickly into nursery where they make friends and gain confidence. Staff expectations for behaviour are fully communicated and understood so children soon learn to manage their own behaviour, support each other and develop mutual respect. Each child's development needs are accurately identified by staff and these are strongly enhanced by the use of key workers. They have a very clear knowledge of specific children's needs and are able to apply tailored support. Children enjoy coming to the nursery and all attend well.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

From their starting points all children, including all groups and levels of ability, make outstanding progress. Their literacy skills are very well developed they can read their own names and recognise letters. Using numbers is given a high priority in all areas of learning. This enables all children to demonstrate excellent skills in counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY359845
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	849596
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	108
Number of children on roll	108
Name of provider	Poppies Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2009
Telephone number	01462830008

Poppyfield is one of two settings run by the proprietor and was registered in 2007. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff, of whom 14 hold qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 4. The owner holds Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery also operates according to demand during school holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
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Manchester
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