

# Poppies Nursery

St Mary's Lower School, Rook tree Lane, STOTFOLD, Bedfordshire, SG5 4DL



<b>Inspection date</b>	14 October 2015
Previous inspection date	16 October 2008

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- The well-qualified staff consistently use excellent teaching methods. They enthusiastically follow children's interests and confidently extend their learning so that all children thrive.
- The exceptionally well-established key-person system ensures that parents are fully aware of what their children have been doing and how they are progressing. When children first start attending the nursery, staff watch them to find out about their personalities and interests before carefully matching them with a key person. This helps children build exceptionally strong bonds very quickly.
- The owner and her senior management team use robust selection and recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children and are qualified for their specific role within the nursery. New staff receive support through an in-depth induction to make sure they follow and understand all the nursery's policies and procedures.
- Staff understand and respect that children learn in many different ways. The outside area is as well resourced as the inside. Children are immersed in purposeful activity as they explore and experiment. They return to favourite activities, helping them to solve even more complex problems as they build upon their prior learning.
- The owner constantly reviews and evaluates every aspect of the nursery. The views of staff, parents, children and other professionals are highly valued. Their ideas and views, which are regularly requested, are incorporated into actions to adapt and enhance the exceptionally high-quality care and education.
- Children behave exceptionally well within the nursery. Staff gently remind them to walk inside the playroom, to be kind to each other and to share the playthings and equipment. Children help to tidy up, continuing to solve problems as they stack building blocks in their box and sort coloured crayons to different containers.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore ambitious training and development opportunities, enhancing the wealth of knowledge and understanding that staff use when introducing new and exciting ideas into the nursery.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities both in the inside and the outside areas of the nursery and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings at appropriate times with the nursery owner and senior staff present that day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and discussed the teaching and learning with senior staff.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of staff working with children and a range of documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector looked at children's records, monitoring systems, planning documentation and daily communication records.
- The inspector spoke to staff about procedures for settling children into nursery and moving on to school.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day and as recorded in questionnaires.

### Inspector

Katrina Rodden

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers ensure that all staff follow and fully understand the robust procedures in place to keep children safe. Managers regularly review all the policies and procedures used in the nursery to ensure that all statutory and government requirements are followed. They seek training and gather information to help them incorporate new initiatives and key changes. All staff receive supervision and support in their roles in a variety of regular and constructive ways. The owner uses accurate methods to monitor the progress of all children in the nursery. She analyses the impact of learning on different groups of children, helping to ensure all children make excellent progress. Managers and staff work exceptionally closely with other agencies and professionals. They value the input from others and share relevant information to support children and their families most effectively.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All staff use their tremendous knowledge and understanding of how children learn, helping to rapidly move children to the next stage in their learning and development. They encourage children to use familiar equipment in imaginative ways. Children work together to create an enormous space rocket from cardboard boxes. Staff introduce new challenges into children's activities. Children enjoy constructing roads and obstacles from wooden blocks. They enthusiastically work out how to move remote control cars over and around their creations. This helps them to develop their understanding of technology. Staff teach children about different cultures and help them find out more about their local community. Staff take children on walks and invite different people into the nursery to show and tell the children about their jobs.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children feel very secure in the nursery. They quickly gain confidence to begin to learn and how to take developmentally appropriate risks during activities. For instance, children enjoy climbing on crates and logs. Staff regularly ask children how they are feeling, helping them learn how to express themselves and recognise the emotions of others. Parents and staff share the achievements and successes of the children. Parents provide photographs and news from home in daily communication books. Staff also share children's achievements. They write on a large image of a tree, for all to see, by the nursery entrance. Children begin to develop good hygiene skills and learn the importance of fresh air and exercise. Staff effectively find ways to allow all children to socialise as they eat their lunch and snack together. They very carefully ensure that children, including those with allergies and health needs, are included in every aspect of nursery life without compromising their safety.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make exceptionally good progress in their learning and development. Staff carefully plan activities that focus on children's next steps right from their first days in nursery so that, when the time comes, they are equipped with the skills they will need for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY217430
<b>Local authority</b>	Central Bedfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	848182
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	64
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	80
<b>Name of provider</b>	Poppies Nursery Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 October 2008
<b>Telephone number</b>	07814 204 126

Poppies Nursery was first registered in 1998 and changed to its current registration in 2002. It operates during school term time and sessions are Monday to Friday from 9am to 11.30am and from 12.30pm to 3pm, with a lunch club between 11.30am and 12.30pm. The nursery provides funded education for two-, three-, and four-year-old children and supports children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff, of whom 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status.

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