

# The Sunflowers Day Nursery

Bowden Business Village, Market Harborough, LE16 7SA



## Inspection date

18 November 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 quality of teaching throughout the nursery is of a consistently high standard. The well-qualified and very experienced staff demonstrate an exceptional knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. As a result, they provide children with an incredibly broad and exciting range of activities and experiences, both inside and outdoors.
- Staff form exceptionally secure emotional attachments with children. Through high levels of engagement with staff and effective key-person systems, children are extremely settled in the nursery.
- Children are very happy and move confidently around all areas of the nursery. All children, even young babies, have daily access to the outdoor environment. They thoroughly enjoy running around and using the play equipment outside.
- There are robust systems for risk assessing the nursery and staff take positive steps to minimise hazards. This helps ensure children play in very safe, stimulating, child-friendly areas, both inside and outdoors.
- All children, including disabled children and those who have special educational needs, make rapid progress in their learning from their starting points. Staff use a highly effective monitoring system to quickly highlight any gaps in children's achievements. This enables staff to put additional strategies in place where needed.
- The management team and staff work exceptionally well together and are highly committed to providing outstanding practice. The nursery manager receives excellent support from the nursery group manager and providers.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to use the views of staff, parents and children to reflect on and evaluate the nursery, in order to maintain the excellent drive for continual improvement.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team of the nursery. She 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.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.

### Inspector

Tracy Hopkins

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Highly effective appraisals, supervision and training sessions are in place. Sharply focused professional development targets are identified for all staff. This has an extremely positive impact on the continuous improvement of children's learning experiences. In addition, staff regularly share good practice throughout the nursery. This means that staff are constantly supported to improve their teaching. The manager is considering further ways of using the views of staff, parents and children to drive continual improvement. The monitoring of children's progress is exceptional. The manager tracks individual children's progress and the progress of groups of children to ensure gaps in their learning are rapidly closing. This also enables the manager to ensure full coverage of all areas of learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a thorough knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse. Furthermore, they have a clear understanding of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Partnerships with parents are very positive. They are extremely complimentary about the support, care and learning their children receive.

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

All staff involved in children's care and learning complete precise observations and accurate assessments of children's achievements. Staff use this information to plan activities that arise from children's individual interests and to support their ongoing learning. Consequently, all children make excellent progress. Staff instinctively engage and expertly challenge children as they play. Toddlers happily engage in singing rhymes and wash the doll's nose, ears and hair in response to instructions from staff. Older children are sensitively introduced to early reading and writing as they develop their phonics skills through fun activities. For example, they move around and find letters in the outdoor environment. This also enhances their physical development and helps to promote the literacy skills of children who prefer to learn outdoors.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The level of children's independence is astonishing. Children are very polite and have outstanding manners. Even the youngest children are encouraged to have a go as they attempt to do things for themselves. For example, babies are encouraged to feed themselves and they find their shoes ready for outside play. Older children help set the tables and serve themselves at mealtimes. Children thrive on being given individual responsibilities. They show a strong sense of ownership of the nursery and, consequently, treat their surroundings and others with respect.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make consistently high rates of progress in their learning. Children of all ages are eager to join in and explore. For example, babies enjoy pressing buttons, shaking rattles and placing objects inside boxes. Older children use a wide range of materials and media. Children are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including their move to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY479184
<b>Local authority</b>	Leicestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	982540
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	115
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	134
<b>Name of provider</b>	Leicestershire Nurseries Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01858540227

The Sunflowers Day Nursery opened in 2006 was re-registered in 2014 under new ownership. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one at degree level, two with level 5 and 13 at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those who have special educational needs.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

