

Honey Bees Nursery

Hitcham Village Hall, The Causeway, Hitcham, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 7NE



Inspection date	25 November 2015
Previous inspection date	31 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff regularly attend training, which has a positive impact on the learning experiences they offer for children. Staff have a good knowledge of what children need to do to be well prepared for starting school.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery. Staff develop strong partnerships with parents and keep them well informed of their children's progress. They also help parents to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff offer frequent praise and encouragement to children for their efforts, which clearly promotes their confidence and self-esteem. This has a positive impact on the children's behaviour.
- Staff emphasise the importance of healthy eating and use effective strategies to involve parents in supplying healthy lunchboxes for their children.
- Children are well protected because staff have a very good understanding of their responsibility to keep children safe.
- The manager and staff demonstrate a strong commitment to developing the nursery and have targeted plans for the future to continually improve the quality of the provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The systems for monitoring staff's performance are not yet fully embedded to ensure high-quality supervision.
- The nursery does not yet use assessment information to identify variations in the progress of different groups of children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the performance management systems further to ensure that the quality of teaching is monitored and information is used to shape staff's professional development
- strengthen the systems for monitoring children's assessments to precisely identify the emerging needs and progress of different groups of children and enhance the support provided for them.

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 manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as the 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.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding practices are effective. Staff have updated their training and fully understand their roles and responsibilities and the procedures to follow should they have any concerns. Daily checks and thorough risk assessments help minimise hazards to promote children's safety. The suitability of staff is checked and robust policies and procedures are in place. The manager works closely with her well-motivated staff team and together they provide very good care and learning opportunities for the children. All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications. However, opportunities for regular staff supervision and professional development have not been maximised to raise the quality of teaching even further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy learning in this well-planned and welcoming environment. Staff have a very good understanding of how children learn. Effective systems for observation and assessment enable staff to track children's progress and identify any gaps in the learning of individual children. However, they have yet to use this information to identify gaps in learning of different groups of children. Adult-led sessions are of good quality. Children have fun working in small groups, developing their concentration and listening skills. Children link letters and sounds and make good attempts at writing their name. Staff provide ideas and suggestions for children to explore and develop their critical-thinking skills. They encourage children's communication and language well. Children enjoy singing and rhymes, and listen attentively to staff as they read stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All staff show kindness and respect, and value children's views and opinions. They know the children well and effectively support and comfort them, particularly those who are new to the nursery. Staff are good role models. They help children to understand expectations, play cooperatively and develop a growing understanding of each other's feelings. Staff talk about the importance of safety and allow children to take supervised risks in their play, which gives them the confidence to try new things. Children learn about a healthy lifestyle through the provision of healthy snacks and plenty of fresh air and exercise. Staff encourage children to develop their understanding of the wider world, such as learning about people who help them. Visitors, such as a doctor and dental nurse, talk to the children about keeping themselves healthy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and work within the range of development typical for their age. Older children are encouraged to learn early mathematical and literacy skills, which prepares them well for their move to school. Additional funding is used successfully to improve outcomes for individual children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251521
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866534
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Sharon Scarfe
Date of previous inspection	31 January 2011
Telephone number	01449 740764

Honey Bees Nursery was registered in 1995. It operates from the village hall and is open Monday to Friday, during term time only, from 9am until 12.15pm. The lunch club runs from 12pm to 1pm after each morning session. The nursery is also open in the afternoons from 1pm to 3pm on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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