

Shenfield Day Nursery

11 Hutton Road, Shenfield, Brentwood, CM15 8LA



Inspection date	26 January 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff provide a good variety of interesting and stimulating activities, indoors and outside, to promote children's good progress in all areas of learning.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development are well promoted through regular praise and encouragement. Children make strong bonds and attachments with staff and peers, demonstrating that they are happy and settled.
- Staff provide consistent guidelines for behaviour throughout the nursery. Children learn boundaries and demonstrate an understanding of the need support and respect each other and their environment.
- Staff establish strong and trusting partnerships with parents. They work closely with parents and other professionals to support children's individual care, development and learning needs.
- Staff work effectively as a team. They are well deployed, indoors and outside, ensuring children's safety and supporting them in their play and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff give children time to think and formulate their answers before responding to questions that they are asked.
- There are fewer opportunities to promote everyday activities where children can explore a range of cultures and religions to extend their very good understanding of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with sufficient time to consider their responses to probing questions as they develop their thinking skills, language and vocabulary
- explore further ways of supporting children's growing understanding of family, the community and the wider world.

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 nursery manager. 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.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust policies and procedures are in place, including those for the safe recruitment of staff. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures and are aware of their responsibilities in this respect. The manager and staff team demonstrate a commitment to the continual development of the whole provision and continue to identify priorities for improvement. The manager monitors staff performance both informally through working alongside the staff and more formally through annual appraisals. Staff are supported to attend relevant courses and gain additional qualifications to further promote effective outcomes for children. Monitoring of children's learning and development is accurate and precise so that any gaps in learning are swiftly identified and addressed. The nursery forms successful links with local schools, in order to support children's future learning and education.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children extremely well because they take time to meet them and their parents, gathering information that helps children settle quickly. Staff regularly observe children and effectively use these observations to plan individual next steps in their learning. Children demonstrate a positive approach to learning, supported by the cheerful interactions of the staff team caring for them. Staff skilfully extend children's learning as they introduce simple mathematical concepts. For example, during painting activities, staff encourage children to talk about the colour, shape and size of the marks they are making. However, on occasion, less-experienced staff do not always give children sufficient time to consider their responses to probing questions as they develop their thinking skills, language and vocabulary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's emerging understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle that involves physical exercise and a healthy diet. Children play outside regularly and the outdoor area promotes children's developing physical skills and confidence. Indoors, staff provide a varied range of interesting play experiences using resources that develop their independence, curiosity and encourage them to explore. However, there are fewer activities and experiences that reflect different cultures and backgrounds to promote children's understanding of the world further. Staff provide very good role models, and consequently, children behave well. They respond to staff's gentle reminders about the boundaries that are in place for safety and behaviour. As a result, staff effectively support children's emotional readiness for their future move on to school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. Staff support children to gain a range of skills, helping prepare children for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481915
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	995741
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	Hutton Child Care Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01277211212

Shenfield Day Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, two at level 4 and two at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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