

Little Houghton Day Nursery



Little Houghton Day Nursery, The Old School, 35 Bedford Road, Little Houghton, NORTHAMPTON, NN7 1AB

Inspection date	14 March 2016
Previous inspection date	13 February 2012

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

- Since the last inspection the management team has continued with their pursuit of excellence. The significant changes they have made to performance management, and continued commitment to the professional development of staff, result in high levels of achievement for children.
- Teaching is of a consistently high standard throughout the nursery. Interactions between staff and children are excellent. Staff show a genuine pleasure in being with the children as they explore the exciting range of activities, both inside and outside.
- Children clearly demonstrate an attachment to staff, who know each child exceptionally well. Staff work extremely closely with parents to ensure that information is shared and any changes required to meet children's needs are managed very well.
- Children rapidly learn to be independent. Staff are very effective in supporting children's awareness of how to keep themselves healthy. Children serve their own food and toddlers are eager to be involved in changing their own clothes after a walk.
- Staff consistently build on children's independence and social skills. This results in children becoming very confident in making choices about what they do, making friends and working together. These skills contribute to children being superbly prepared for the next stage in their learning and for the move on to school.
- Children's safety is given the highest priority. Staff are extremely vigilant in their supervision and take active steps to keep children safe. Through discussion when out walking, they help children begin to learn about how to keep themselves safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of the already excellent large-group activities so that the needs of all children taking part continue to be met exceptionally well.

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 a meeting with the provider, the manager, senior manager and three members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The highly motivated and inspirational management team has a continuing drive to achieve excellence in all aspects of children's individual care and learning. They are highly successful in meeting each child's needs as they reflect on activities and respond to valued information from parents, working closely with them. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust recruitment procedures are in place. Incisive, effective mentoring has a significant impact on staff's confidence and knowledge of how children learn. The manager recognises that the organisation of some large-group activities could be refined so that all children taking part are fully involved. All staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding and the procedures to follow to ensure children's well-being is preserved. Detailed information about the progress of different groups of children is collated and used to ensure that all children are supported to make the best progress they can. Senior staff share information at the beginning of each session every day. This results in the highly successful deployment of staff in each group room to ensure children's needs are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly skilled in their teaching. Children's interests and suggestions are fully included in the meticulous planning of activities. Staff know each child very well. They make accurate and precise assessments which link closely to the planning. This attention to detail, along with the staff's extremely positive interaction with the children, results in children taking delight in all the activities that are available to them. Staff encourage children to explore their own ideas as they splash in puddles during outside play. Children talk excitedly about the snails that live in the nursery as they use scissors to prepare the snails' food. Children's communication and language skills are supported extremely well throughout the nursery. Staff promote babies' confidence to babble and older children develop their skills, for instance, as they play sound lotto games. Staff use descriptive words during play and ask questions that help children to think and extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are highly motivated to explore the abundance of activities that is available to them. They are very well supported by staff to concentrate as they become immersed in what they are doing. They show a clear sense of well-being as they ask staff to look at models they have built and babies snuggle up to staff as they settle to sleep. Children's individual care routines are meticulously managed by the staff, who work extremely closely with parents. Staff manage children's specific dietary needs exceptionally well. Children's behaviour is excellent. They are interested and excited about their activities and are shown great respect by the staff.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make high rates of progress given their individual starting points. The excellent support and encouragement they receive throughout their time at the nursery mean they are extremely well prepared when the time comes to move on. Children are very confident and successful in their learning. They are able to make friends and demonstrate high levels of self-esteem.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY431187
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	850200
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	62
Number of children on roll	100
Name of provider	Bambino Limited
Date of previous inspection	13 February 2012
Telephone number	01604 899 338

Little Houghton Day Nursery was registered in 2011. It is part of a limited company which owns two other early years provisions. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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