

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Thetford

Mallow Road, Thetford, IP24 2YD



Inspection date

6 April 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

- The manager demonstrates an ambitious vision and has high expectations for what all children can achieve. She is committed to providing children with high-quality care and education. Leaders and managers make regular, ongoing evaluations of practice. These include gathering the views of parents and children, in order to develop a targeted plan for continued improvement.
- Staff provide a warm, caring environment that welcomes children and their families and promotes respect and equality. They work closely with parents and carers to ensure they develop a clear understanding of each child's individual care needs and interests.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are good. Parents share information about their children and contribute well to their initial assessments. Staff keep them well informed about their children's day. They effectively engage with parents to support children's learning in the setting and at home.
- Staff effectively support disabled children and those with special educational needs. They work closely with parents and other professionals to provide a consistent approach. This helps children make good progress in their learning.
- Children behave well. Staff are consistent in the messages they give. They offer regular praise and encourage children appropriately throughout the sessions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to enhance children's early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to further develop their early reading skills.

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 spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. 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 sampled a range of other documentation, including records of children's learning and development, a selection of policies and procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. Rigorous recruitment and induction procedures ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. The manager has thorough systems in place for staff supervision to ensure good quality teaching. She offers support and advice on an ongoing basis. Staff take every opportunity to extend their knowledge and acquire new skills through training. They share their new learning within the staff team. This contributes towards effective changes in practice and has a positive impact on children's learning and development. All staff are fully aware of the nursery's policies and expectations. The manager has good systems in place for monitoring the progress of groups of children. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified and addressed. Additional funding is spent effectively to help promote the development of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They interact purposefully with the children and provide effective support. Children of all ages are eager to take part in activities that are planned for them. Staff effectively support children to develop their language and communication skills. They employ a wide range of strategies, such as using sign language and speaking clearly. They use simpler vocabulary for children who speak English as an additional language. Staff work closely with parents to promote language development in the nursery and at home. They regularly assess what children know and can do. They use this information to plan interesting activities that help children achieve their next steps in learning. Staff share accurate assessments with parents so they know how well their children are progressing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff work closely with parents to ensure settling-in procedures for children are effective. They are responsive to children and accommodate their individual needs well. Babies enjoy being comforted and wake happily after naps. Children enjoy playing alongside staff and are comfortable and confident. They are familiar with the daily routine, which helps to support their emotional well-being. Children experience sociable mealtimes where they sit alongside their peers and staff. Pre-school children are learning about how to keep themselves safe. They are involved in the risk assessment of activities. Children have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air which help promote their good health and support their physical well-being. Staff talk to pre-school children about the effects of exercise on their body and the need to have a drink and rest afterwards.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school. They learn how to share, take turns and develop their personal care skills. Children follow good hygiene routines and learn to put on their own coats before playing outside. They have many opportunities to develop their early writing skills and recognise numbers and shapes. All children make good progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486890
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1008447
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	73
Number of children on roll	113
Name of provider	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01842 752757

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Thetford registered in 2015 and is part of a national chain of settings. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. 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 children who speak English as an additional language, disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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