

Little Elms Daycare Shirley

Doctors Surgery, 2 South Way, Croydon, CR0 8RP



Inspection date	8 June 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 provider and the managers are committed to providing a high standard of care and education for all children. The recruitment of experienced and qualified staff, together with an effective induction period, ensures a strong, cohesive team.
- Children thrive in the care of their key person in this welcoming and stimulating nursery. They settle quickly and show that they feel emotionally safe. Children display good levels of confidence.
- Staff follow consistent methods to support children to develop awareness of others. Children behave well and are kind and respectful towards other children.
- Staff encourage children's early communication and language well. For example, children learn new words by participating in songs and rhymes.
- Staff plan activities based on children's interests and present them with appropriate challenges to help them make good progress in their learning. Children explore freely, make choices about what they do and use their imagination well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff are supported well, systems for professional development do not yet focus strongly enough on raising the good quality of teaching even higher for all staff members.
- Plans to extend the partnership with parents are still in the early stages of development to fully maximise parents' participation in their children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- target the professional development of staff more precisely on raising the quality of teaching for all staff to an outstanding level
- develop the programme for parent participation to help towards accelerating children's progress at home and in the nursery.

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 meetings with the nursery manager, area manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability checks of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Gillian Cubitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The new manager, with good support from the provider, leads her team efficiently and has high expectations of staff and children. She guides and mentors staff and manages their performance well with individual meetings. Recent training has helped staff's methods of observation. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They understand how to minimise risks, and follow thorough procedures to ensure children's safety. The managers have a clear vision for the nursery. They have set realistic goals and show their success in achievement. For example, they are forming good partnerships with local schools and health professionals. Staff provide parents with regular feedback about their children's progress and, overall, partnerships are good. Parents are invited to visit the nursery on special occasions, such as Mother's Day, and to meet on a one-to-one basis with their children's key person.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children make good friendships. They are inquisitive and share their ideas with each other and staff. Staff encourage older children's literacy, for example, by practising letter sounds and providing accessible resources to encourage their writing. Children build creatively and use counting well, which increases their confidence in working with numbers. Staff carefully place resources that excite babies' senses to encourage them to move from crawling to toddling. For example, they happily splash in water and delve into low-level drawers to select wooden and sound toys. Staff evaluate children's progress well. Targeted learning plans ensure that children's individual needs are met effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All children benefit from daily access to a well-resourced outdoor play area to support their active play. They have great fun running, riding bikes, and accessing resources such as the 'mud kitchen' to develop their creative play, for example. Staff have a good knowledge of children's emotional needs. They use praise effectively to build children's self-esteem. Children see their work displayed and they join in community festivals to celebrate diversity. Children benefit from wholesome meals and they follow clear procedures that help to reinforce healthy lifestyles and how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points in all areas of learning. Babies and toddlers show pleasure and eagerness to explore. Older children communicate well and participate in conversations. Children learn how to look after themselves and have a good awareness of others. All children develop a love of melodies and rhythm. They are motivated, active learners who are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489229
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1013934
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902320
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02382022462

Little Elms Daycare Nursery Shirley registered in 2015. It is one of eight nurseries owned by Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited. It is situated in the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery opens each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 52 weeks of the year. There are 24 members of staff, of whom 19 hold qualifications ranging from a foundation degree to qualifications at level 2, 3 and 4. The manager holds a relevant qualification at level 5, a foundation degree and a management qualification at level 3. Four staff are working towards a qualification. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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