

Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd

4 Meads Lane, Wheathampstead, ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire, AL4 8BW



Inspection date

13 July 2016

Previous inspection date

27 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 nursery has made good improvements since their last inspection. They have a named deputy manager in place and permanent staff have been employed, which provides continuity of care for children.
- The key-person system works well and enables children to make secure attachments with the staff. This is supporting children to settle in well and helps to build their self-confidence.
- The management team has a strong commitment to providing the best quality of care and learning experiences for children. They have an effective system of self-evaluation. Senior staff regularly gather the ideas of parents, children and staff. They set targeted plans for development which incorporate everyone's views.
- Children practise their mathematical skills as they count ladybirds. They have fun sorting them into different sizes and eagerly await their turn to answer questions and solve problems. For example, they count six ladybirds and are asked how many more are needed to make 10 ladybirds.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff supervision does not always focus precisely on how staff can fully develop and enhance their teaching skills to the highest level.
- Although children in the baby room are making progress, staff sometimes plan next steps that are rather broad. This does not always help staff in identifying exactly what individual children need to work towards in order to make more rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen staff supervision to identify strategies to help them to extend their quality of teaching to the highest level
- identify younger children's next steps more precisely to promote higher levels of progress.

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 observed and discussed a joint observation with the nursery provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the providers at an appropriate time during the inspection. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation, policies and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of the signs and symptoms that could raise concerns about a child's safety and welfare. They know the procedures to follow and who to contact in the local authority. Staff work closely in partnership with parents to share assessments of children's learning. They provide ideas for activities that parents can use to further their children's learning at home. The well-qualified senior staff are good role models for other staff. This provides them with some support to help them to enhance their teaching skills. Children's progress is monitored through frequent observations and assessments of learning. This supports them to make continued good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of the different ways that children learn and develop. They provide stimulating learning experiences that are suitable for children's individual ability and stage of learning. Children's language and communication skills are promoted through good quality interactions with staff. For example, children join in with singing nursery rhymes and well-known songs. They use musical instruments to shake to the beat of the song. Staff use repetition to strengthen children's developing language and introduce new words during their play. Children listen carefully and enjoy answering questions about stories where they predict what may happen next. They have plenty of opportunities to strengthen their early writing skills with the range of art and craft activities available. For example, they enjoy painting, colouring, chalking and writing their names in sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to behave well through the consistent approach that all the staff use. They are learning how to share and wait patiently for their turn during activities. Children are encouraged to be independent from a young age and will help to prepare food for snack time. They spread cheese on their crackers and clear away their own plates and cups when finished. At the end of a session all children follow instructions and happily work together to tidy away the toys and equipment. Children have plenty of opportunities for developing their physical skills. For example, they play games in the large garden area and enjoy playing and sliding on the climbing frames and equipment. Children take turns on the wide variety of bicycles, push bikes and pushchairs. They enjoy walks around the village and visiting the local shops. The nursery staff promote healthy eating. For example, children are provided with a variety of healthy meals and snacks. Staff talk to children about what food is good for them and what food is not.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress from their starting points. They learn the skills that they need ready for their next stage in learning and for moving on to school. Children are provided with a wealth of interesting and challenging activities that keep them motivated and eager to learn. They enjoy the challenge of putting a road track and buildings together to make a whole town which includes people and vehicles.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481793
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1034012
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534003
Date of previous inspection	27 November 2015
Telephone number	01582 831 991

Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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