

Dotties Nursery

5 Petworth Drive, Leicester, LE3 9RF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

31 August 2016

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

- Since registration, the manager has steadily recruited a staff team to meet the needs of the children and families. The staff team works closely together, it contributes to the nursery's self-evaluation and understands current areas for improvement.
- Observations and assessments of children's individual learning ensures their key person has an accurate account of their current stage of development. This information helps staff provide a balanced approach to children's learning through adult-led and child-led activities. All children are making good progress.
- Children have lots of opportunities to learn new language and enhance their vocabulary. Staff talk to the children as they play, encouraging them to converse with their peers.
- Children's emotional needs are supported. Settling-in arrangements are sensitive to children's individual needs and respectful of their parents' wishes. Children enjoy warm relationships with the staff and their peer group.
- Secure partnerships with parents and other providers have been developed. Through a variety of channels of communication, staff share what they know with parents about their children's development. In addition, parents are encouraged to share their observations of their children's learning from home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's deeper thinking is not consistently extended. There are occasions when staff do not give children enough time to think about how they want to respond to questions they ask them.
- Staff do not provide children with enough opportunities to become aware of the benefits of eating healthily and the contribution that this makes to their good health.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to put their thoughts into words when responding to questions
- provide children with more opportunities to become aware of the benefits of eating healthily and the contribution that this makes to their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted observations of the activities and evaluated the teaching methods with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a strong understanding of her staff's strengths and areas they can develop, in order to improve outcomes for children and their families. Through team meetings and individual appraisals, the manager ensures her staff reflect on their practice and identify some of their training needs. Plans for future training accurately reflect the team's needs. Children are safeguarded. Management and staff are experienced and knowledgeable in identifying the signs and symptoms of abuse. Parents are very happy with the service. They describe the service as a fantastic, home-from-home environment. They, especially, appreciate how settled their children are in the care of the staff and the strong progress they make in their social and language development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Senior-room staff guide and support new and less-experienced staff to support the children's learning. Staff undertake observations of the children's learning and make accurate assessments about what they know and can do. This information is then successfully used to inform future planning. Babies and toddlers participate in role play activities that successfully support their language and communication skills. Staff repeat key words to them and encourage them to copy words and sounds. They take every opportunity to praise them for speaking and engaging in role play. Older children learn about the world around them. One example of this is a conversation at small-group time about the weather and how a rainbow is created. There is a good variety of activities that successfully supports the seven areas of learning. Children also experience a good range of sensory experiences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff caring for babies have a warm and sensitive approach towards their care. Staff are always in close proximity and at their level. As a result, the babies seek comfort as and when they choose by touching and sitting with the staff. All children in the nursery are very settled. They are happy on arrival, readily separate from their parents and keenly access the activities on offer. Children's good health is promoted well. The meals provided are nutritionally balanced and thoroughly enjoyed by the children, some of whom enjoy a second helping. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. Pre-school children use the staircase to access the outdoor play area. Staff guide them, explaining the importance of holding onto the handrail and putting two feet on each step. Children learn to manage their self-care needs successfully. Children feel good about themselves throughout the nursery as staff praise them for their achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

The senior team accurately monitors the staff's records on children's learning and development and helps them to identify gaps where children may need additional support. Children are supported effectively by staff to reach the next stage in their learning. Children are confident, motivated and inquisitive learners and are developing good skills for future learning and in readiness for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489328
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	1028868
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Dotties Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908159
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07875465297

Dotties Nursery was registered in 2015. It employs eight members of staff, the majority of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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