

Sunflowers Day Nursery

Sunflowers Day Nursery, Mount View, Standard Way Business Park,
NORTHALLERTON, North Yorkshire, DL6 2YD



Inspection date

31 August 2016

Previous inspection date

12 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 management team is dedicated and committed to ensuring that children receive a high-quality nursery experience. Parents comment that they are happy with the care staff provide and the progress that their children are making.
- Recruitment procedures are robust and all staff have completed Disclosure and Barring Services checks. This helps to ascertain their suitability to work with children.
- Staff use accurate observations to identify children's next steps in learning. They plan a wide range of opportunities that helps children to build on what they already know and can do. The environment, both inside and outside, is well organised and stimulating.
- Children's behaviour is very good. Staff consistently apply positive, age-appropriate boundaries for behaviour, ensuring children know what is expected of them.
- Children learn about their community and take part in celebrating local and national events. They celebrate festivals of different faiths and learn about the customs and beliefs of others.
- Parents are kept well informed about their child's progress. They are encouraged to share children's achievements from home. This collaborative partnership helps to enhance children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The nursery has not found successful ways to engage parents consistently in their self-evaluation to help identify further areas for improvement.
- Occasionally, information from the progress check for children aged between two and three years of age is not used to sharpen the focus of plans for individual children's next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the self-evaluation process and involve parents more fully in identifying where aspects of the provision can be improved
- focus even more sharply on what individual children need to learn next and help close any gaps in their learning at a faster rate.

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

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and how to report their concerns. Staff are confident about reporting any concerns they may have about other staff members. Staff are vigilant, well deployed and adult-to-child ratios are well maintained. The management team and staff have identified some areas for ongoing improvement. All staff are well qualified and they continue to update their training to, overall, further improve their knowledge. Staff have one-to-one supervision meetings with the manager and regular team meetings. These help to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good and, occasionally, outstanding. Staff understand how and when to interact with children to move their learning forward. They effectively follow children's interest. They support children as they enthusiastically use pots, spoons, soil and vegetables when pretending to make dinner in the kitchen. Staff engage children in meaningful conversations and use questioning to encourage them to problem solve and think as they play. Children have a wealth of opportunities to experiment with making marks as they write shopping lists. The environment is rich in print and there is a wide range of books that is easily accessible to children. This supports and fosters their interest in books and reading. The introduction of real fruit and vegetables into the home corner encourages children to explore with their senses and develop an understanding of nature and where food comes from. Staff in the baby room are enthusiastic and responsive to children's needs as they explore with paints. Relationships between staff and babies are very sensitive and stimulating.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in sessions are used to gather information from parents about their child's development and individual care and learning needs. Children settle well and build secure attachments to their key person. Staff promote healthy lifestyles. A variety of well-balanced meals and snacks is provided with drinks available for children to access throughout the day. Children enjoy playing outdoors. They develop their physical skills and relish the challenge of the outdoor play equipment. Children understand about managing risks and keeping themselves safe. Staff are adept at promoting children's independence skills. They encourage children to manage tasks for themselves and praise their achievements. Children manage their self-care needs successfully.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are well prepared for starting school. Children show a keen interest in learning. They independently select toys and concentrate well on their chosen activities. They enjoy books and stories and develop early mathematical and writing skills. Children listen attentively to instructions and confidently carry out simple jobs around the nursery, such as helping with setting the dinner table.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY234473
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	1064340
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 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Warnes Nurseries Northallerton Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908980
Date of previous inspection	12 June 2013
Telephone number	01609 781755

Sunflowers Day Nursery was registered in 2002. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. All 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.

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