

Madhatters Nursery

Mad Hatters Nursery School, Longmoor Road, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7NY



Inspection date

19 September 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 and her staff are motivated, enthusiastic and reflective. They regularly review their practice and identify areas for improvement. Effective action plans help to ensure continuous improvement and support outcomes for children.
- There is a very relaxed, homely and welcoming environment throughout the nursery. Children form very close relationships with staff. This contributes towards children feeling safe and emotionally secure.
- Staff provide a broad and interesting range of activities, both indoors and outside, that supports all areas of learning. Children make good progress.
- Partnerships with parents are well-established. There are good two-way systems for sharing information about children's individual needs and achievements. Staff keep parents well informed about children's development and encourage home learning.
- Children are keen to learn about letters and the sounds they make. For example, they begin to recognise their name and identify objects in the environment that start with a specific letter.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, some staff overlook opportunities to build on children's learning. They do not consistently use what they know about children's skills and next steps in learning to challenge their development further.
- Sometimes, staff do not extend children's interest and learning in technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure all staff use what is known of children's development and next steps in their learning to challenge them at every opportunity and raise their development outcomes to an even higher level
- extend opportunities for children to investigate and learn more about technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care routines and teaching, and the impact of these on children's safety, welfare and learning. A joint observation of an activity was carried out with the manager.
- The inspector sampled records and procedures relating to safeguarding, risk assessment, health and safety, and discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's safety and welfare with the staff.
- The inspector looked at children's records, staff planning and evaluation of activities, and how staff exchange information with parents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector spoke with staff about the impact of their training, experience and practice on children's well-being, learning and development.

Inspector

Fabiana Drew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is hard working and works well together. It is committed to delivering good-quality childcare. It consistently encourages and supports staff to improve their teaching practice and knowledge. The staff use their qualifications and skills well to support children's good progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a very good understanding of what to do should they be concerned about a child's welfare. They are confident about their responsibilities and ensure the environment is safe and secure for children to explore and play in. Management keeps staff up to date with new guidance, such as through training courses about child protection legislation. Staff work closely with other professionals and follow guidance to enable them to meet and support children's care and learning needs effectively. The management team carefully reviews children's development to identify and address any learning gaps across different groups of children to ensure all make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have good levels of confidence and feelings of self-worth. For example, they like to make choices about their play in the busy learning environment and are proud to show staff their creative work. Staff use good teaching skills to help children develop their language and to think for themselves. For example, staff model new words for younger children who copy what they say, extending their vocabulary. Staff complete regular observations and assessments carefully. They use this information well to plan for children's next steps in learning and include children's interests. Children enthusiastically take part in group activities. For instance, older children excitedly recall events from story books, as they discuss shapes and sizes of different fruits.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Care practices are consistently good across the nursery. Staff place a high emphasis on supporting children's emotional and physical well-being. They spend time getting to know children and their families during the settling-in period. They listen to children with genuine interest and talk to them in a respectful and caring manner. Children behave well and show high levels of motivation during their play. Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to be physically active. For example, they have fun as they build different structures outside. Children receive healthy foods and drinking water is readily available.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and successful learners who are well prepared for school or the next stage of their learning. For instance, they are keen to practise their early writing skills. They are confident and independent. For example, they share their ideas and older children manage their personal care needs well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483520
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	996459
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	Chiverton Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903270
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01428727288

Madhatters Nursery registered in 2014. The nursery operates from two separate single-storey buildings in the grounds of Bohunt Community School in Liphook, Hampshire. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery is open between 9am and 3pm on Monday to Thursday and from 9am to 12 midday on Friday, during term time only. There are 13 members of staff and, of these, 11 hold relevant early years qualifications to at least level 3.

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