

Knowlhill Day Nursery and Preschool



11 Roebuck Way, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8HL

Inspection date	6 October 2016
Previous inspection date	7 August 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

- Staff know children well. They have a strong understanding of where children are in their development and this helps them plan many different learning experiences effectively. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff help children feel emotionally secure. For example, staff working with babies build sensitive and affectionate relationships with them. Staff help children understand how to treat each other kindly and they encourage social skills, such as sharing.
- The manager values the views of parents, staff and children. She uses strong evaluation processes to support all-round improvement in the quality of the provision.
- Staffs encourage a two-way flow of information between the nursery and home. For example, they post display boards to encourage parents to share observations of their children's learning at home and provide information about children's ongoing development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not monitor the quality of teaching consistently well to support all members of staff to raise their skills to a higher standard.
- Children do not have enough opportunities to extend their thinking skills and try out their ideas to find out how and why things happen.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice to raise the quality of their teaching skills to a consistently high standard
- create a wider range of activities to encourage children to investigate and question how and why things work.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's developmental records, policies and procedures, and the record of self-evaluation.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager and discussed the findings.
- The inspector took account of children's views and sampled written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Carolyn Hasler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff use thorough processes to accurately monitor how well children are doing from their starting points. They make strong links with parents and other professionals to ensure learning is consistently good. The manager supports staff in their professional development effectively overall. Staff have good attitudes to developing their skills and regular opportunities to discuss their practice. The manager makes good use of data about children's achievements to address any gaps in their learning effectively. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the indicators of concern and follow reporting procedures effectively to protect children from harm. The manager understands her recruitment responsibilities and works with other professionals well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Throughout the nursery, staff are effective in encouraging children to be involved and take part in activities. For example, they sit with children and encourage play by showing children they are interested and demonstrating ideas of what to do. Staff successfully encourage children's language development. For instance, those working with younger children listen carefully and engage in their chatter. They use singing and rhyming to encourage early speaking skills. Staff make conversation around children's play. For example, when supporting sand play, staff use plenty of describing words, ask and respond to questions, and make references to mathematical terms. Staff plan many physical challenges for children that keep them active. For example, children enjoy pedalling tricycles, climbing and balancing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children to respect themselves and each other effectively. They help children to understand the differences between themselves and others and build their confidence to make friendships. Staff listen to children about what interests them and support them in leading play. Children learn to do many tasks for themselves, such as managing coats and boots for outside play. Staff help children learn about risk taking and support their understanding of staying safe. For instance, they support children who feel less secure by holding their hand while they balance. Staff successfully encourage children to be healthy. For example, they offer nutritionally balanced meals and plan exciting sensory activities so that children have opportunities to explore healthy foods.

Outcomes for children are good

All children enjoy the variety of opportunities to learn through play. They are physically active and use indoor and outside spaces well to explore. Children develop a range of skills to communicate, such as listening and responding, and gain confidence in talking about their experiences. Children develop the necessary skills in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442044
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1074370
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 - 7
Total number of places	107
Number of children on roll	112
Name of registered person	Kids Play Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900863
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2013
Telephone number	01908 209219

Knowlhill Day Nursery and Preschool registered in 2011. It is one of four groups run by Kids Play Limited. The nursery is situated in Knowlhill, in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. It provides care during weekdays, 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round. The provider receives funding for early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 31 members of staff, of whom 25 have childcare qualifications at level 2 and above.

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