

Hamilton Hilltop Nursery School

25 Hilltop Road, Hamilton, Leicester, LE5 1TT



Inspection date

17 October 2016

Previous inspection date

23 April 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 have a good understanding of how children learn. They make effective use of individual children's observations and assessments. Staff take account of children's interests and next steps in learning and use these to inform the planning of activities.
- Children who have special educational needs and disabilities are supported very closely to reach their potential. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are very good. Staff work closely with all involved in children's lives to ensure continuity of care.
- Staff create a culture that values and celebrates diversity. They encourage children to develop an understanding of each other's similarities and differences. Staff show children that they value their unique backgrounds.
- Children behave well and they play harmoniously together. Staff are positive role models as they promote positive behaviour.
- There are good procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of the nursery's provision. The provider and manager are dedicated to putting the children first and they are strongly supported by the staff team.

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 and understand about children's skills to raise their achievements to outstanding levels.
- At times, staff interrupt children's play to engage them in whole group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of what is known about individual children so that specific areas of development can be targeted for rapid progress
- improve opportunities for children to fully explore activities and resources without interruption so they can complete tasks to their satisfaction.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors 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 inspectors held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. They looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary/Teresa Lester

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a thorough knowledge of the procedures they would follow if they have any concerns about children. Comprehensive recruitment and induction procedures help to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Thorough risk assessments are carried out to help assure children's safety. The staff team is a balance of qualified staff and those who are working towards a qualification. There are good systems in place to supervise and support all staff. Regular training opportunities are offered to enhance staff's knowledge and professional development. The nursery is well established within the community, with many parents returning with younger siblings. Parents speak very positively about the care and education their children receive and the guidance they get to support their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop good literacy skills. They enjoy listening to stories and when asked if they want another one, they eagerly answer yes. Staff involve the children in the story, asking questions about what they think might happen next. Older children recognise familiar words, such as their name. They practise their early writing skills in various situations. Children are proud of their achievements and staff acknowledge this. Toddlers enjoy listening to songs and rhymes. They sing heartily and attempt some of the actions. This supports their understanding of language. Babies have opportunities to explore sensory resources suitable to their age and they develop their physical skills with support and encouragement from staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. They form strong bonds with their key persons and other members of staff. Staff create a welcoming environment where children are safe and looked after well. Children show good physical skills as they steer wheeled toys around outside, climb up and slide down the large equipment. Children follow good hygiene procedures and understand about keeping healthy. They benefit from eating freshly prepared and nutritious meals and snacks, which are cooked on site. Children enjoy their meals, such as lamb or vegetable curry and naan bread, and have access to drinking water at all times. Older children learn good independence skills, such as serving their food at lunchtime.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who receive funded education and children who speak English as an additional language, achieve well. They make good progress from their starting points throughout their time in the nursery. Children explore a wide range of sensory materials. They enjoy playing with the dough and painting with foam. Children develop their coordination skills as they persist at building towers as high as themselves. They use their imagination well as they dress up as superheroes and play in the home corner. They recreate experiences they are familiar with. Children learn valuable skills for their future learning in preparation for moving on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY296529
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	1075327
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	130
Number of children on roll	100
Name of registered person	Hamilton Hill Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525128
Date of previous inspection	23 April 2013
Telephone number	0116 2743090

Hamilton Hilltop Nursery School was registered in 2004. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one member of staff with qualified teacher status. 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. It supports children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and disabilities.

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