

Little Joey's Nursery

Unit 7/8, Merlin Way, Bowerhill, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6TJ



Inspection date

4 November 2016

Previous inspection date

17 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 has implemented a number of improvements and has successfully addressed the issues raised at the last inspection. The quality of teaching has developed throughout the nursery as a result of her tenacious and skilled approach to monitoring and supporting staff practice.
- Children of all ages listen well to instructions. They respond cooperatively and join in with parts of the nursery routine, such as tidying up and getting ready to go outdoors. These skills prepare them well for school when the time comes.
- Children who have special educational needs do particularly well with their development. Staff work effectively with parents and other professionals to ensure children receive the support they need to flourish.
- The nursery has a happy and welcoming atmosphere. Children readily greet staff when they arrive in the morning and are eager to play and chat to one another.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, teaching at group times does not sustain the interest of all children, including those who speak English as an additional language. This prevents some children from fully benefitting from these sessions.
- A few of the many recent improvements are not yet established or fully effective. For example, new systems of assessment are working well but are too new to provide a comprehensive overview of how well all children learn and develop.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the quality of teaching at group times so that all children listen and learn well, including those who speak English as an additional language
- ensure that recent improvements in management and teaching make a difference to raising children's outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children of all ages playing and learning indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the owner of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with the local authority childcare officer advisor who has worked with the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documentation, including staff records and the nursery's self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Susan Mann HMI

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager works effectively with the owner and deputy. Evaluation of the nursery's strengths and weaknesses is influenced by all relevant parties, including leaders, staff, children and parents. As a result, leaders know what aspects require further action or improvement in the nursery. Staff attend a wide range of training and put what they have learnt into practice well. For example, staff caring for two-year-old children have recently attended training on behaviour management. They use strategies they have learnt to help children understand their emotions and control behaviour. The recently introduced assessment process ensures leaders and staff record what children can do when they first start, together with the current stage of their development. Although not fully effective yet, this system identifies what action is needed for all groups of children to make rapid progress. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders are vigilant. They place a high priority on ensuring all staff receive frequent safeguarding training. As a result, staff understand what action to take if they believe a child's safety and welfare to be at risk. Minor concerns are monitored to ensure important information about children's safety is up-to-date.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular and good quality assessments of what children can do. Therefore, they now have an accurate knowledge of what each child needs to learn next in order to make the best progress. There is a very strong emphasis on developing children's communication skills in all parts of the nursery. Staff model language very well. They speak clearly and encourage children to engage in conversations throughout the day. Adults' use of sign language, for example, helps younger children to understand more. However, staff do not always make sure all children participate fully in group activities. This limits opportunities for them to make even better progress, particularly those children who have English as an additional language. Staff confidently teach children about basic mathematics. Younger children enjoy exploring height and size through building towers with bricks and counting objects, for example.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The nursery environment is thoughtfully arranged and provides a wide range of enjoyable play and learning opportunities. Children's development is greatly enhanced by use of the very good outdoor area. Here they improve their social and creative skills playing pretend games, for example. They increase their physical fitness and coordination with activities such as running around or riding on toy cars. Parents report high levels of satisfaction with the nursery. They appreciate the approachable nature of staff and regular updates about what their child does during the day. Medical and dietary needs are managed effectively because staff complete relevant training.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. Some younger children in receipt of two-year-old funding have not yet reached typical levels of development in their communication and language. However, they are catching up quickly as a result of good quality teaching that prioritises this aspect of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145794
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1034818
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	86
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	Boomerang Holdings Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909939
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2015
Telephone number	01225 702000

Little Joey's Nursery registered to care for early years children in 2012. It is situated on the industrial estate at Bowerhill, near Melksham. Little Joey's Nursery offers care to children all year round, with the exception of one week for the Christmas and New Year period and Bank Holidays. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm. There are 14 staff at the nursery, of whom 11 have an appropriate childcare qualification. There was a change of manager in March 2016. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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