

Starfish Childrens Day Nursery

Farnham Sixth Form College, Morley Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8LU



Inspection date	7 November 2016
Previous inspection date	5 September 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 leadership team works well together. It provides a strong team, united by its pursuit of improving the levels of provision and ensuring good outcomes for children.
- Security at the nursery is tight and well managed. Should staff or parents have any concerns about a child's welfare or protection, contact details and procedures to alert appropriate professional bodies are clearly known to all.
- Staff welcome guidance from specialist teachers as they work in partnership to identify, support and teach children with special educational needs or disability.
- Children are well behaved, happy and quickly develop secure, trusting relationships with staff. They develop self-confidence and a willingness to try new activities.
- Children are taught effectively. They develop their physical skills extremely well. For example, they learn to manipulate and control a wide range of small and large equipment during activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- New unqualified staff have not yet had enough time and training to consolidate their levels of practice across all areas of the nursery.
- Staff do not share children's ongoing development and progress effectively with parents to help enhance continuity in their children's learning between home and the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek effective ways to enhance the knowledge and skills of new staff to raise children's outcomes further
- refine the arrangements to share information about children's progress with their parents to help develop consistency in their learning and care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care routines and teaching, and the impact of these on children's learning and development.
- The inspector reviewed 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 leadership team.
- The inspector looked at children's records, staff's planning and evaluation of activities, and how they exchange information with parents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector observed practice with the acting manager and discussed her plans for professional development and further improvements across the nursery.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The recently appointed acting manager knows the nursery staff and children well. She makes effective use of self-evaluation to identify what might need improving such as resources that directly benefit the children and their learning. In a short time, the acting manager has started to address priorities. She seeks and listens carefully to the views of parents. They express high levels of confidence in her. Staff use a comprehensive range of policies and procedures to underpin good levels of care and well-being across the age groups. Staff are clear on how to spot concerns about children's welfare and who to contact in such an instance. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff working with each age group of children make careful observations of children's interests and achievements. They use them to plan varied, interesting and often challenging opportunities for play and learning. The quality of teaching in the older groups is particularly effective. Children make good levels of progress in their learning. The acting manager uses a clear system for monitoring each child's progress over time. Where children's progress slows, she ensures her team implements early support to help them make more rapid progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Attentive and responsive staff help babies and toddlers settle into the nursery. Babies enjoy exploring their own room, for example as they confidently crawl up and over soft-play equipment, choose attractive toys and stack light shiny shapes. Staff make good use of their outdoor play areas. For instance, toddlers learn to balance and pedal bikes on their soft-surface track, while older children build dens and obstacle courses in natural habitats. Staff quickly build on children's imaginative play and challenge their thinking. Children turn crates into a 'train', plan their route to the 'airport' and review how quickly they will get to the imaginary beach. Enthusiastic staff encourage teamwork, cooperation and kindness. Children behave very well for their ages.

Outcomes for children are good

Children become increasingly independent and ready for their moves to school as they progress through the 'Jellyfish' rooms. For example, they thoroughly enjoy using their nicely decorated bathroom to manage their personal hygiene independently. Children's skills in listening, communication and speaking are particularly good. They are confident to share their ideas and initiate small group discussions on simple and surprisingly deep topics. Children are used to selecting resources for art, mathematics and science as well as role-play equipment. They enjoy experimenting, make predictions, try out new ideas and know how to tidy away at the end of a session.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277515
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1061748
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	52
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Charlotte Mary Murton
Registered person unique reference number	RP513410
Date of previous inspection	5 September 2013
Telephone number	01252 820 333

Starfish Children's Day Nursery registered in 2004. It is a privately owned nursery operating from a self-contained building within the grounds of Farnham College in Surrey. The nursery is open from 7.30am until 7pm on Monday to Friday, all year round excluding Christmas and bank holidays. Funding for the provision of free early education is available for children aged two, three and four years. The owners employ 21 staff, 11 of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 or above.

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