Baby Bears Day Care

128 Dunthorne Way, Grange Farm, Milton Keynes, MK8 0LW



Inspection date	24 November 2016
Previous inspection date	5 December 2012

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

- Leaders review the provision effectively to identify areas for improvement and this has maintained the good quality service the setting has offered since the previous inspection. Leaders value the contributions that staff, parents and children make to this process.
- Staff make good use of observations to identify children's next steps in learning. Planning considers children's interests and staff plan a wide range of activities that engage children well. Children make good progress, including those with additional needs.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents to meet children's needs. They keep parents informed about their children's progress and well-being and help them to support children's learning at home.
- Staff know children well and are warm, caring and attentive. Relationships between children and staff are good and an effective key-person system is in place.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Routines with older children are not organised as well as they could be and some children become unsettled.
- Activities, particularly those planned for children who prefer learning outdoors, do not make the best use of the provision to challenge and excite children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the quality of teaching and learning more closely to identify how improvements to some routines can ensure children are fully engaged and are not kept waiting for too long
- improve planning to make better use of the learning environment to help those who learn best outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the managers.

Inspector

Anne Clifft

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to protect children and they know the procedures to follow should they have any child protection concerns. Leaders follow safe recruitment procedures and a thorough induction programme is in place for new staff. Leaders ensure staff understand policies and procedures. They carry out staff suitability checks and staff are aware that they need to notify leaders of changes in their personal circumstances. Staff work closely with other professionals to ensure that children make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's early reading skills well and also provide a wide range of opportunities for children to practice their early writing skills. For example, babies enjoyed making marks in foam and older children wrote letters to Santa and made shopping lists in a restaurant role play. Staff have a good understanding of how to support children's physical development. For example, younger children were encouraged to explore the range of engaging resources placed at different levels and older children squeezed sponges to clean toys. Staff encourage children's curiosity about the world they live in successfully. For example, they provided a game with herbs and spices to encourage children to explore and use their senses.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to develop a secure understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, children learn about good hygiene practices, enjoy nutritious meals and benefit from health initiatives such as dental care. Staff support children's emotional development well. For example, they offer plenty of praise and encouragement and help children to develop their self-esteem. Staff help children to respect their differences sensitively. For example, they make good use of books to encourage children to explore a range of situations such as differences in their home routines and living arrangements. Staff support children's independence well. For example, they give children opportunities to become independent in managing their own needs and changing into their outdoor clothes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well motivated to learn. They enjoy involving friends in their play and learn to share and take turns. Children develop good communication and language skills. For example, babies practice their sounds confidently and older children use expressive language and detail to retell stories. Children make good progress with their early mathematical understanding and literacy skills. These help to prepare them well for their future learning. For instance, older children find their names and recognise numbers beyond 10.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY437179

Local authority Milton Keynes

Inspection number 1059072

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 5

Total number of places 60

Number of children on roll 76

Name of registered person

Baby Bears Day Care Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP530131

Date of previous inspection 5 December 2012

Telephone number 01908501032

Baby Bears Day Care registered in 2011. It operates in Grange Farm, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm, all year. The setting employs 18 staff. Of these, 10 have appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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