

Sandfield Day Nursery

Sandfield Road, Headington, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX3 7RH



Inspection date

15 December 2016

Previous inspection date

6 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team are ambitious and passionate about providing high-quality childcare. Monitoring of staff performance and children's learning is extremely accurate and highly rigorous. This helps to provide children with an inspirational quality of teaching. All children make outstanding progress.
- Arrangements for when children start or move rooms within the nursery are excellent. For example, children are exceptionally well supported during the move from the baby room into the next age group. This helps them to settle quickly and build very secure, trusting relationships with their new key person.
- The nursery environment and garden areas are exciting and highly stimulating. Staff support children's learning skilfully. Children develop an excellent range of physical skills. For example, they stomp, tiptoe and pretend to stumble through a forest, recreating scenes from a favourite story.
- Children are extremely highly motivated, engaged and quick to learn to think for themselves. They have exceptionally high levels of confidence, emotional well-being and are secure in their friendships and relationships with staff.
- Staff have excellent links with other professionals and schools. Precise, detailed information is shared regularly which helps to support an extremely consistent approach to children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider ways to further challenge children to continue practising their already excellent early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities on offer indoors and outdoors, and the quality of interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and staff, and spoke to the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the impact on children's learning and development.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including policies and procedures, children's development records and staff suitability checks.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Managers routinely research changes to safeguarding legislation and share this information with staff, which helps them to have an excellent knowledge of how to protect children. Managers quickly identify and address any gaps in children's learning. They work closely with staff to help them constantly improve their teaching skills to provide children with excellent learning opportunities and raise outcomes further. Managers seek feedback from parents, staff and children to help them identify areas to improve. For example, after consulting with parents, staff provided more detailed online feedback to involve them further in their children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff support children extremely effectively. They work exceptionally well together as a team and create high energy, inviting activities. For example, staff recreated 'snow' for babies with shredded white paper and sang songs. Babies actively joined in and imitated staff's actions, such as crawling through and using their hands to play with the falling shredded paper. This helps to promote babies' engagement, imagination and physical development. Children thoroughly enjoy their learning. For example, staff provide highly challenging and exciting activities, such as baking Christmas cakes. This enabled children to use a wide range of skills, such as sensory to explore, smell and feel the ingredients and learn that print carries meaning. Occasionally, staff do not make the very best of all opportunities to extend even further all children's early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's personal and social skills are outstanding. Staff are excellent role models and encourage children to follow their examples. Children are very well mannered, play harmoniously together and show great respect for others and their environment. Children help to tidy up and learn from an early age how to care for their environment. For example, they independently fetch and use towels to mop up water spills while playing in the water tray. Staff expertly help children at an early age to recognise and express their own feelings. Healthy lifestyles are superbly promoted by staff.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those who receive funding, make rapid progress in their learning. They make outstanding progress which helps to support the next stage in their learning. For example, young children quickly learn to feed themselves independently and hold writing tools. Children are exceptionally confident, and make the most of the freedom they have to move between the excellent range of resources and activities available to them. For example, they learn to peel vegetables, such as sprouts and then play with real food in the role-play corner.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134033
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1061376
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 - 4
Total number of places	128
Number of children on roll	174
Name of registered person	Childbase Partnership Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900830
Date of previous inspection	6 June 2013
Telephone number	01865 744200

Sandfields Day Nursery registered in 1993. It is part of the Childbase partnership ltd. The nursery is located in the grounds of the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford and operates from a purpose-built unit. It opens on weekdays, all year round, from 7am until 6.30pm. The nursery employs 49 members of staff. Of these, over half have appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

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