

# Little Mice 2 Day Nursery

Ivy House, Station Road East, Stowmarket, IP14 1RQ



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

21 February 2017

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 work together as an effective team. Management and senior staff are strong role models to help staff aspire to improve. Staff respond well to management's high expectations and desire to provide children with the highest-quality provision.
- Since taking over the nursery, management has made many positive changes for the benefit of children and families using the nursery. Children particularly benefit from a wide range of engaging outdoor activities that promotes their curiosity and enthusiasm to learn.
- Children learn to behave well and take account of the feelings and views of others. Staff use calm and consistent strategies to help children understand the expected rules for behaviour. Staff encourage children to settle simple disputes for themselves, which helps prepare them for their move on to school.
- The nursery provides parents with a good range of information to involve them in their child's learning. Regular copies of summaries of children's progress are sent home to keep parents up to date about their child's achievements. Weekly newsletters provide parents with ideas about how they can support their child's learning at home.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not make the most of daily routines to help promote children's learning and development to the highest level.
- Although management has identified many ways of monitoring and enhancing the quality of the provision, these are not yet fully embedded in practice across the nursery.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of the learning opportunities that arise during daily routines to help all children make more rapid progress
- strengthen monitoring of practice across the nursery to help raise the quality of the provision to an outstanding level.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the care, compliance and education manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Gill Thornton

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Management places a strong focus on ensuring all staff have a good understanding of child protection issues. Staff are confident about the action to take if they have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child in their care. All staff have undertaken relevant training to help them identify children who may be at risk from extreme views about right and wrong. Rigorous recruitment and induction procedures ensure staff are suitable and knowledgeable about their roles and responsibilities. Staff receive good levels of support to help them improve their knowledge and teaching skills through ongoing training and regular supervision meetings. Self-evaluation is used effectively to identify further areas for improvement. For example, the nursery is evaluating the effectiveness of their partnerships with parents to help them ensure they are engaging effectively with all parents. The management team effectively monitors the progress of different groups of children to help them quickly target any gaps in children's learning or the educational programme.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff listen carefully to what children are saying and ask questions to encourage them to expand upon what they mean. Staff accurately assess each child's stage of development to identify and effectively plan for what they need to learn next. Staff build on children's interests to extend their play. For example, staff follow children's interest in playing with wooden sticks outdoors, playfully asking them if they can make a triangle with their sticks. Children respond well to the challenge and enjoy demonstrating their mathematical understanding. Staff provide children with many opportunities to use their imaginations, both indoors and outside.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The nursery works closely with staff from a nearby nursery that is part of the same group. Children's move from the other nursery is very well planned to help them settle with ease into their new environment. Children develop close relationships with their key person, seeking them out for guidance and support when needed. The nursery offers a balanced range of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. Staff help children develop good social skills. Children serve their own food at mealtimes and learn to use cutlery with skill as they enjoy their cooked lunch. Staff are careful to ensure children's health and dietary needs are well met.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and develop the key skills that prepare them well for their eventual move on to school. They are enthusiastic in their play, seeking out other children to share their findings and ideas with. Children demonstrate good literacy skills. Older children are learning phonic sounds. They attempt to write their own names and all children have good opportunities to make marks in different ways. Children enjoy energetic physical play in the fresh air. They skilfully balance on tyres and planks. They enjoy digging in mud and mixing different materials with water to observe the end result.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY490372
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	1014532
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	67
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	86
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Mice 2 Day Nursery (UK) Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP534670
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01449 678089

Little Mice 2 Day Nursery was registered in 2015. It is one of a group of nurseries privately owned by Sunhill Daycare (Europe Ltd). The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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