

Raindrops Day Nursery Ltd



The Meadows Childrens Centre, Harberts Road, Harlow, CM19 4DL

Inspection date	10 March 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
		Not applicable	
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 provider and managers have a clear and uncompromising vision for the nursery. They communicate this extremely effectively and involve every member of staff in driving forward improvement. The well-qualified staff team is confident and creative. They have many opportunities to grow in their roles.
- The key-person system is exceptional. Children form secure emotional attachments with their key persons. They meet children's individual needs extremely well and this helps to build their confidence and self-esteem.
- Staff's support and care for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is superb. Highly effective strategies engage parents and external agencies in supporting children's sustained progress.
- Partnership working is excellent. Parents highly praise all aspects of the nursery. They readily share news from home and ask staff questions. Parents like the detailed information they receive about children's welfare and development. They feel supported and encouraged to successfully continue children's learning at home.
- Staff provide many varied opportunities to help children develop their imaginations. Pre-school children prepare to 'blast off to space' dressed up as astronauts. Toddlers enjoy pretending to cook and share meals together. Younger toddlers base their play on their own experiences, feeding dolls, cuddling them and changing their nappies.
- Staff use music and singing as a highly effective learning tool. Pre-school children learn to link letters to the sounds they represent through singing. This helps them to begin blending sounds together to make words. Younger children find puppets and hand them to staff to show them which song they want to sing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance support given to staff to help them maintain children's very good progress in recognising and understanding numbers.

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 carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and deputy managers and reviewed the evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She also spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including attendance records.
- The inspector discussed the nursery's methods of reflective practice.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff regularly attend safeguarding training. They demonstrate an excellent knowledge of what to do if they are concerned that a child may be at risk. Robust recruitment procedures and in-depth induction ensure all staff thoroughly understand their role in the nursery. The provider supports staff extremely well and uses secure performance and development procedures. She ensures that the staff team is extremely well qualified, knowledgeable and confident. The managers critically evaluate every aspect of the nursery. Information received from parent questionnaires is analysed and parents are quickly informed about additional improvements made. Children's progress is meticulously tracked. The managers and staff provide swift, targeted support for individuals and groups of children. This helps to close any gaps in learning and ensures that all children make the very best progress possible. Managers have identified further opportunities to support staff to maintain the progress children are making in developing their understanding and recognition of numbers.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly motivated staff use their excellent teaching skills to enthuse and engage children. They take every opportunity to respond to their interests and extend their learning. An area in the pre-school room is transformed into a spaceship. Children show their excellent knowledge of planets and gain even more understanding from looking at information books. Staff provide exciting opportunities for toddlers to enjoy sensory experiences as they play with toy animals in crunchy cereal. Babies show their sheer delight as staff blow bubbles. They are keen to blow the bubbles for themselves and are praised well for their efforts. Staff promote their communication and language development very well as they clearly offer them words, such as, blow, air and pop.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children settle exceptionally well. They show that they are very happy and content in this high quality, nurturing environment. Children thoroughly enjoy the sustained amounts of time spent outdoors in all weathers. They develop healthy lifestyles and strong physical skills. Children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities enjoy managing risks for themselves. For example, as they ride bicycles they skilfully manoeuvre round other equipment and children. Children are provided with healthy snacks and well-balanced meals. They demonstrate high levels of independence. Children help to prepare snacks and manage their own personal care needs, learning skills in readiness for school.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children rapidly acquire the knowledge and key skills that prepare them extremely well for their next stage of learning and for starting school. The nursery is full of happy and inquisitive children, who are keen to explore and highly motivated to learn. They make independent choices about their play and learn from the wide range of stimulating activities. Children gain excellent literacy skills, such as learning to recognise their names in print from a young age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494495
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1026145
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	99
Name of registered person	Raindrops Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534854
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01279 773917

Raindrops Day Nursery Ltd was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including two with early years professional status. The nursery opens from 7.15am until 6pm, Monday to Friday all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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