

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bishops Stortford St Michaels Mead



Turners Crescent, St Michaels Mead, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM23 4FZ

Inspection date

10 April 2017

Previous inspection date

18 February 2014

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

- Children and their families swiftly form warm bonds with their key person. Babies snuggle up to their key person as they become tired. All children enjoy sitting close to their key person as they eagerly participate in interactive stories that are read to them.
- Staff develop strong relationships with parents. There is an effective two-way flow of information to aid children's care and learning. The newly introduced home learning books successfully inform staff about children's achievements at home.
- The well qualified and dedicated staff continuously evaluate and reflect on their practice. A detailed action plan is in place to help continuously drive forward further identified improvements.
- Staff promote children's language development very well. They model effective listening skills and introduce children to new words that relate to their play. For example, staff use a variety of words to describe children's actions as they jump to pop bubbles.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not provided with excellent opportunities to independently select their chosen toys and equipment in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- Staff do not always encourage children to develop a sense of responsibility in helping to provide a stimulating learning environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the availability of toys and equipment in both the indoor and outdoor environment to enable children to make independent choices in their play and learning
- encourage children to demonstrate an increased sense of responsibility in helping staff to provide a highly inviting environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspectors completed joint observations with the acting manager.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the acting manager, regional manager and curriculum manager. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. The acting manager regularly monitors staff practice through frequent supervision meetings. Staff attend a wide range of training courses to continually enhance the quality of their teaching. Recent training has increased staff's knowledge of introducing children to a wider range of creative activities. The acting manager thoroughly monitors children's progress, including specific groups of children, taking swift action to address any emerging gaps in children's learning. Close partnerships with other professionals effectively help staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All children are motivated and inquisitive learners in this welcoming nursery. Babies thoroughly enjoy exploring the sensation of natural objects using their hands and mouths under the close supervision of staff. Younger children develop good control and coordination of small tools as they use these to search for toy animals hidden underneath sand. They use their vivid imaginations as they pretend to cook play food for their friends and staff. Older children are confident as they speak out loud during group time. They are eager to share their experiences of the traditional way they celebrate Easter with their family. Children who speak English as an additional language are well supported by staff. For example, they use key words in children's home language in their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They happily share toys and create large pieces of artwork together. Children develop a good awareness of how to keep themselves safe. For example, staff explain to them that they are sweeping up the sand, 'So that it is not slippery on the floor'. Effective arrangements are in place to help children make a smooth move between rooms when the time comes. Older children develop good physical skills as they practise throwing balls through raised hoops. Babies develop strength in their legs in preparation for walking as they hold onto walkers and confidently push these around the outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Older children independently manage their own personal needs. They are beginning to link letters to sounds, write their own name and frequently use mathematical language as they play. These are just some of the skills that help to prepare children for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125064
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1087605
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	80
Number of children on roll	127
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900809
Date of previous inspection	18 February 2014
Telephone number	01279 755522

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bishops Stortford St Michaels Mead was registered in 1999 and is managed by Busy Bees Day Nurseries Limited. It employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, from 7.30am until 6.30pm. It provides funded early education for two-three- and four-year-old children.

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