

Rocking Horse Kindergarten

Bromford Road, Birmingham, B36 8EY



Inspection date	26 April 2017
Previous inspection date	11 April 2013

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

- The provider and leaders have developed effective systems in order to regularly reflect on practice and monitor the service they provide. This helps them to prioritise what needs to improve and to constantly enhance outcomes for children.
- Staff are skilled in describing what is happening and modelling language during routines as children play. They help all children, in particular those who speak English as an additional language, to develop their understanding and their speaking and listening skills.
- Staff arrange the learning environment for children well. It is imaginatively and creatively organised to provide a stimulating space. This helps children to explore recent learning, practise new skills and follow their own interests.
- The key-person system is effective. Children benefit from effective partnerships between their parents and the nursery. Staff confidently share relevant information. This means parents receive the support and guidance they need to extend their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff arrange the learning environment for children well. It is imaginatively and creatively organised to provide a stimulating space. This helps children to explore recent learning, practise new skills and follow their own interests.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make full use of information about what children need to learn next and plan more precisely for activities that increase the potential for them to make rapid progress in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider and manager of the provision and discussed self-evaluation. She held discussions with staff members about their roles and responsibilities, including safeguarding.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and children's records.

Inspector

Kim Barker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders have developed a robust system for recruitment and professional development. This covers induction, supervision, appraisal and training for all staff. Observations of staff practice inform discussions about how to continually improve the quality of teaching. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know how to keep children safe. They are alert to the signs that may indicate that there are concerns about a child in their care. Leaders know how to follow local safeguarding procedures. Strong partnerships with other professionals ensure that all children receive prompt support when needed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff use sound systems to observe children's play and identify the next steps in their learning. They reflect on children's interests to generally plan imaginative activities and experiences. Teaching is of a high quality. Staff model the use of language to extend children's vocabulary and promote understanding. They repeat language back to younger children and ask questions. This helps encourage children to think and to express their thoughts and ideas. Staff promote children's early literacy and communication skills during small-group activities. Babies handle props as they join in with singing activities. Staff animatedly read a story. Children are fascinated and join in with repeated refrains where possible.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children display high levels of independence, trust and curiosity in the welcoming, nurturing environment. This is because they form strong relationships with their key person and other familiar staff. Children are well supported as they move on to the next stage in their learning. For example, effective procedures are in place to make the move on to the next room or to school successful. Children learn the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They actively take part in group activities that involve a range of whole body movements. Staff chat to children about the food they are eating for lunch and encourage them to try different foods. This helps children to make positive choices that enhance their health and self-care skills as part of a sociable experience.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are curious and motivated to learn through play. They make independent choices and negotiate with others to decide what they want to play with. Children develop confidence in speaking in a group. Their listening skills are promoted and they learn to respect each other. Children are developing the skills they will need when they are ready to move on to school. All children, including those who receive funded early education, make good rates of progress. Children's early literacy and mathematics skills are promoted well. They are encouraged to recognise their own names in print and see labels in the environment. There are numerous opportunities for all children to make marks and practise their early writing skills. Children learn about numbers and quantities as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY392107
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1065365
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	98
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Simnir Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902337
Date of previous inspection	11 April 2013
Telephone number	01217836899

Rocking Horse Kindergarten was registered in 2009. It is one of three nurseries operated by the same owner. The setting employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, two hold level 2 and three hold level 6. The setting opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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