

Rascals Day Nursery

The Old School, 400 Little Wakering Road, Barling, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS3 0LN



Inspection date

15 May 2017

Previous inspection date

28 May 2015

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

- Babies and children settle exceptionally quickly into the nursery and form close and secure bonds with staff. This helps them to grow in confidence and self-assurance. Their positive behaviour demonstrates that they feel extremely safe and secure.
- Partnerships with parents are especially strong. Staff share with parents detailed information about children's development throughout their time in the nursery.
- Families receive a high level of support and understanding. Staff are enabling, caring and sensitive to their needs. Parents speak exceptionally highly of the staff and the care and education their children receive.
- Teaching is highly effective and consistently delivered throughout the nursery. All children make exceptional progress in their learning and development.
- Managers and staff establish highly successful partnerships with other professionals and secure effective interventions for children who may need additional support. Staff's intensive interaction with children helps to close gaps in their learning and ensure they progress to the best of their ability.
- Staff reflect closely on the effectiveness of the activities they provide and support each other to continually improve. The views of parents, staff and children are taken fully into account through the continuous evaluation of the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore information communication technology in order to develop and sharpen their skills for the future.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the suitability and qualifications of staff, children's development records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Dedicated managers and staff work successfully together as a team. Staff are exceedingly well supported through regular supervision meetings. There is a shared commitment towards delivering exceptional standards of high-quality care and learning for all children. Managers monitor closely the development of individuals and groups of children. This helps to ensure that staff focus on children's specific learning needs and support them to achieve their full potential. Staff benefit from an effective and targeted programme of training that ensures they deliver a rich and varied learning experience for children. Safeguarding is effective. All staff are entirely confident in their role to protect children and to identify any risks to their well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff conduct especially purposeful observations of children to identify the extent of their abilities. They plan exceptionally challenging activities that successfully promote learning. For example, children enthusiastically enjoy mixing a variety of ingredients to make potions. Staff extend their learning effectively through careful questioning techniques that stimulate their thinking skills and develop their imagination and creativity. Children actively enjoy exploring their environment. They are fascinated as they examine insects in a bug hotel with magnifying glasses. Staff pay particular attention to children's communication and language development. They use signing and symbols to increase understanding, such as for children learning to speak English as an additional language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide an extremely enabling environment where children feel confident and relaxed. Babies and children demonstrate their interest and enjoyment. For example, they are engrossed as energetic staff show them fascinating pictures in books and bring stories to life. Children learn about differences in the world and have fun exploring the traditions and customs of others, for instance, as they see and taste unfamiliar foods. Staff provide children with a nutritious healthy diet. They stretch their physical abilities outdoors, taking measured risks as they climb. Staff recognise that better use needs to be made of information technology resources so that children can independently explore these when they wish.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are well prepared for new adventures in learning and for going to school. They learn exceptional independence skills from a very young age. They patiently put on and fasten their shoes and tidy away their toys. They change their clothes after muddy play activities. Children are excited while learning to match colours and shapes and weighing ingredients for cooking.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY415045
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1094484
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	63
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Polardreams Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP521727
Date of previous inspection	28 May 2015
Telephone number	01702217589

Rascals Day Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery opens all year round, Monday to Friday, from 7am until 7pm. There are 13 members of childcare staff including the manager. Of these, one member of staff holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, one holds level 4 and seven hold level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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