

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery

304 Broadway, Bexleyheath, DA6 8AH



Inspection date

15 May 2017

Previous inspection date

7 January 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

- The leadership and management team has a strong drive to continually improve the quality of the nursery. It takes account of the views of staff, parents and children and make changes that benefit children.
- Staff make good use of the local community and outdoor environment to help children learn a variety of skills. Children learn about other people that live in the community and keep fit when they practise physical skills outdoors.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff keep them regularly informed about their children's achievements. Parents share what their children can do at home to contribute to their children's next steps in development. Parents and staff work well together to help children make good progress.
- Staff are very motivated, committed and work well together as a team. They, know their role and responsibilities, deploy themselves effectively and supervise children well. Staff meet children's individual care and learning needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not precisely monitor children's progress to help them more consistently identify any possible gaps in their learning and close them quickly.
- At times, staff do not make the most of learning opportunities for children in the toddler and mini-pre-school room to enable children to engage fully in their play and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance monitoring children's progress, to provide a sharper focus on identifying any gaps in their learning and development to close them quickly
- support and encourage toddlers and young pre-school children more consistently to help engage them in meaningful play to extend their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff, and observed play and learning activities within the main environment and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the leadership and management team. She checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, policies and procedures, and discussed the self-evaluation.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Anja Eribake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership and management team implements strong recruitment and vetting procedures to help ensure staff are suitable for their roles. All staff have a good understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities and they regularly refresh their knowledge of safeguarding procedures. The manager and staff conduct thorough risk assessments to help keep children safe and secure. Leaders use supervision meetings to identify training needs and encourage staff to develop themselves, building on their existing knowledge and skills. All of the level 2 qualified staff are currently working towards their level 3 qualification in childcare, which helps raise the quality of practice and teaching. The special educational needs coordinator has a strong commitment to working in partnership with external agencies and services, to meet children's needs. The effective information sharing helps to develop a shared knowledge and understanding about how to move a child forward in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with a stimulating, well-resourced and age-appropriate learning environment, indoors and outdoors. Children confidently explore the learning opportunities available and make independent choices about their play. For example, they enjoy engaging in role-play activities and messy play, talking about their experiences and creating new ones. Staff support children's communication and language development very well. Children speak confidently with staff, visitors and each other. For example, pre-school children discuss how to make tea for the inspector during sand play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is effective and staff develop close relationships with children and parents. Children settle when they first start and during transitions within the setting. Children behave well and display a good awareness of the boundaries staff set. Staff provide gentle reminders to children about the expected behaviour and encourage them to share and take turns. Children become confident and are emotionally ready for their next stage in learning. They learn how to keep the learning environment tidy. For example, they help wiping tables and putting toys away.

Outcomes for children are good

All children develop good physical skills as they explore the environment around them. They make independent choices and they help themselves to resources. Children develop their communication, language, writing and number skills in readiness for school. For example, older children enjoy counting and challenging their mathematical thinking, using scales and different-sized objects. Nursery rhymes captivate younger children, who imitate the actions and sounds. Children are confident learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469876
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	1098281
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	140
Number of children on roll	179
Name of registered person	Your Childcare Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533114
Date of previous inspection	7 January 2014
Telephone number	02036096911

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery registered in 2013. It is privately owned and is one of the Monkey Puzzle chain of nurseries. It operates from a converted building in Bexleyheath town centre. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks a year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. There are 41 staff, including the manager and the provider. One staff member holds qualified teacher status and 29 staff hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 2 or 3.

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