

The Rainbow Tree Day Nursery

The Old Casino, 85-87 Wellington Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1JQ



Inspection date	22 May 2017
Previous inspection date	27 June 2016

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 have good opportunities to make choices in their learning and develop their independence. They are happy, confident and ready to learn through play. They make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- The management team involves other professionals and staff well in the ongoing evaluation of the nursery to help improve children's outcomes. For example, it has made several improvements and met all actions raised at the last inspection to achieve the current good standards in the nursery.
- The key-person system is effective. For example, children form close relationships with staff, which help to support their emotional well-being.
- There are good recruitment, induction and monitoring procedures in place. For example, the manager completes regular checks to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable and able to carry out their roles effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Strategies to help all parents support and extend their children's learning at home are not always fully successful, particularly for those who have special educational needs.
- At times, the arrangement of staff in the pre-school room is not always effective to support and extend children's play and learning to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even stronger support and encouragement for parents to continue children's learning at home, particularly those who have special educational needs
- review the organisation of staff in the pre-school room to help support and extend children's learning even further at all times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play and staff interactions with them.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff at appropriate times throughout the day and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about children's learning.

Inspector

Josephine Afful

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a suitable understanding of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about children's safety or welfare. They attended regular safeguarding training, which helps them to identify any children who may be at risk of extreme views and behaviours. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments to help children play in safe learning environments. The manager ensures that the quality of teaching is consistent throughout the nursery and that all children make good progress. For example, since the last inspection, significant improvements have been made regarding assessment of children's progress and planning to ensure all children receive enough challenge in their learning. The staff team works closely with the local authority early years improvement officer to identify areas where they can improve. For example, they have improved play opportunities in the outdoor learning area to help children who learn best outside make the progress of which they are capable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide an interesting range of activities to arouse children's curiosity to learn. For example, children enjoy digging soil and mixing this with water to make a 'muddy puddle'. Staff encourage children's physical development well. For example, babies move around freely in the learning environment, emptying containers and transporting resources. This is further extended by regular outdoor play, such as climbing obstacle courses. Opportunities for children to learn about the natural world are numerous. For example, they enjoy planting seeds and feeding the rabbits, and staff use the opportunity to teach about growth and decay.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well and are eager to explore and learn. Overall, staff give clear rules and expectations for behaviour, and teach children to share and take turns. This contributes positively to children's behaviour. Children learn about their own and other people's similarities and differences. For example, they celebrate festivals of other cultures and staff explain to children why some people are different from others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning, and gaps in learning for those who have special educational needs are closing well, overall. Children are very active and develop good physical skills. For instance, pre-school children eagerly take part in simple yoga activities, such as bending and stretching. Toddlers maintain good engagement and copy actions during rhyme sessions, and babies show high levels of confidence when holding paintbrushes to paint. Children are sociable and develop the skills they need for their next stage of learning, including starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496377
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1095940
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	The Rainbow Tree Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907275
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2016
Telephone number	01474 491273

The Rainbow Tree Day Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 7pm on Monday to Friday, all year round, closing for one week at Christmas. There are 10 members of staff who work with the children, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. This includes a member of staff who holds early years professional status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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