

Banana Moon Colchester

Oyster Court, St. Helens Lane, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TY



Inspection date

26 April 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Staff make good use of their qualifications and skills. They regularly observe children and plan for their ongoing learning. They provide a range of activities that reflects children's interests and next steps in learning. Children make good progress.
- Children form trusting bonds with attentive staff, who offer them plenty of praise and encouragement. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- The manager and staff work closely together and accurately evaluate the effectiveness of the provision. For example, each room has their own folder, with areas for improvement that staff concentrate on to further raise the standards of teaching.
- Children enjoy taking appropriate risks during outdoor play and develop good physical skills.
- Thorough recruitment and induction procedures help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The manager has effective systems in place to ascertain the ongoing suitability of staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff miss opportunities to develop older children's understanding of early mathematics, in particular comparing size.
- At times, staff do not make the most of opportunities for babies to explore using their senses or experiment with a wide range of creative materials.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities for older children to develop their understanding of simple mathematics
- build further on babies' interest in exploring and experimenting with a wide range of creative materials.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the quality advisory manager.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider, the nursery manager, area manager and quality advisory team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff complete child protection training to secure their knowledge of how to identify and report concerns about children's welfare and safety. The manager and staff team work well together. Effective systems are in place to manage any concerns or complaints received from parents. The staff continually develop their knowledge and practice. For example, they receive regular information and updates from managers and attend courses, including how to deal with biting and challenging behaviour. Staff provide a consistent approach to every child's care and learning and ensure that ratios are adhered to at all times. Children are supervised closely. The manager builds strong links with local schools. For example, teachers are invited into the nursery and staff talk to them about children's learning and individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and successfully provide them with a wide range of activities. Children's communication skills are supported very well. Staff use a wide variety of activities to encourage children to talk. Staff encourage babies to listen and join in tapping and banging musical instruments along to simple songs and rhymes. Older children sit happily with staff as they enjoy listening to stories. This helps to effectively support young children's early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and supported well by staff. Relationships throughout the nursery are strong. Babies and children who are new to the nursery enjoy cuddles from their key person when they are upset or tired. Children behave well and learn to respect others. Detailed information is gathered from parents when children first start attending. This helps staff to provide continuity in meeting children's physical and emotional needs, such as any allergies they may have. Children benefit from plenty of exercise and nutritious meals. Staff make sure that all children's dietary needs are met and water is always available. Effective systems are in place to manage any accidents children may have at the nursery. Parents are informed and risk assessments are reviewed to help prevent possible reoccurrence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They develop as motivated learners and explore their learning environment with confidence. Children develop a wide range of skills in readiness for school. For example, babies enjoy practising their early writing skills when they make marks on sheets of paper on the ground in the garden and older children independently manage their own personal hygiene routines well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496549
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1097004
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	104
Number of children on roll	129
Name of registered person	Go Leisure Colchester Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901345
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01206549946

Banana Moon Colchester registered in 2016. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 6, 16 are qualified at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery receiving funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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