

The Co-operative Childcare Watford South

1- 3 Altham Gardens, South Oxhey, WATFORD, WD19 6HJ



Inspection date

30 May 2017

Previous inspection date

20 February 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 key-person system is very effective. Children rapidly build close attachments to staff and others. These are supporting children to grow in confidence and raising their self-esteem. Staff know the children well and meet their individual needs.
- Children are provided with a wide range of activities that they find interesting and challenging. Younger children delight in choosing toys and equipment for themselves. They eagerly shake instruments while babbling to songs.
- Staff work in close partnership with parents. They provide a range of information and ideas that parents can use at home to further support their children's learning. Parents comment that staff often share information about how their child is progressing and what they are working on with them.
- Children delight in the opportunities to explore the outside area. They enjoy developing their physical skills and they ride on push-along bicycles, climb and play ball games.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always give children the time to explore their own ideas and, sometimes, provide them with the answers to a question too quickly.
- The manager does not always make the best possible use of supervision meetings to monitor and evaluate staff's practice to focus on raising the overall quality of teaching to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with the time to explore their own ideas and give them opportunities to respond and work out answers for themselves
- strengthen procedures for staff supervision and monitor and evaluate staff's practice to raise the overall quality of teaching even higher.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the area manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider recently notified Ofsted about an incident at the nursery where staff did not follow policies and procedures for the supervision of children. Staff have been retrained in the nursery's policies and procedures. A robust risk assessment has been implemented to ensure children are well supervised. Staff to child ratios are maintained. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. Staff know the procedures to follow to report any such concerns. They closely monitor the assessments of children's learning and progress. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified and targeted support is provided. Staff regularly evaluate their practice. They seek the views of parents and children which are incorporated into their plans for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Parents share information about what their children can do when they first start at the nursery. This information is used to identify children's initial starting points in learning. Children's mathematical development is fully supported by staff. Children eagerly await their turn to weigh out ingredients and mix it all together. Staff talk to children about the number of pounds and ounces they need to weigh ready for the ingredients. Children extend their small-muscle skills and they mould play dough to make different animals. They delight as they create an elephant. Staff are very supportive of children's communication and language development. They introduce new words into their play and repeat words back to children to help support their pronunciation.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Staff are consistent in their approach and provide clear explanations which support children's understanding about behaviour. They support children in good hygiene practices, such as when they are reminded to wash their hands before mealtimes. Their independence is encouraged by staff. Young children serve themselves fruit at snack time. Older children eagerly await their turn as helper to set everything up for lunchtime for all their friends on each table. Children very quickly learn what they are allowed and not allowed to eat and share this information with their friends.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress from their starting points. Older children enjoy the challenge of writing their own name on pictures they have created. Children very quickly learn the skills needed for their move to school. Younger children laugh with delight as they explore spoons and containers that make loud noises when banged together.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY278043 |
| Local authority | Hertfordshire |
| Inspection number | 1098950 |
| 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 | 60 |
| Number of children on roll | 58 |
| Name of registered person | Places For Children (PFP) Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP900891 |
| Date of previous inspection | 20 February 2014 |
| Telephone number | 0208 421 7500 |

The Co-operative Childcare Watford South registered in 2004. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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