

Happy Hands Day Nursery

St. James Road, NORTHAMPTON, NN5 5LE



Inspection date

4 July 2017

Previous inspection date

16 March 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 managers evaluate the quality of the provision and staff practice to ensure ongoing improvements. They have successfully addressed the actions and recommendations raised for improvement at the previous inspection.
- Safety is given a very high priority. Hazards to children are identified and minimised, and children are taught how to promote their own safety.
- The quality of teaching is good and children progress well. Assessments of children's progress by staff are precise and effectively inform planning to offer children individualised learning experiences.
- Children's personal development and well-being are effectively supported by the warm and affectionate care given to them by the nursery staff. Children develop a real sense of belonging.
- Staff have a good understanding of how to support children who are learning English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff benefit from frequent discussions about their performance, some aspects of the arrangements for monitoring staff practice are not sharply focused on enhancing the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- Children's specific next steps for their individual learning are not consistently shared well with parents.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for reviewing staff practice to more sharply focus on their strengths and weaknesses, to continually raise the good standard of teaching
- communicate more effectively with parents to share information about children's next steps in learning.

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

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic provider and her management team strive to provide the best quality care for children. The staff work very well together and are keen to improve outcomes for children. They are well supported in their roles by management. For example, they receive regular supervision sessions and are encouraged to attend further training to enhance their practice. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection. They speak confidently about the procedure to report any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have access to highly stimulating environments, indoors and outdoors. They are active learners who are motivated to engage in the wide variety of interesting and challenging activities available to them. Children have good opportunities to engage in activities to develop their imagination. For example, they enjoy dressing up and playing in a toy space ship. Staff promote children's communication and language well. They engage children in conversations and model the good use of language. Children enjoy looking at books and listening to their favourite stories. Staff regularly observe and assess children's learning and plan activities based on their individual needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the nursery and have developed secure attachments to staff. Staff are good role models. They play alongside children, helping them to understand how to share and take turns. They praise positive behaviour, which boosts children's self-esteem. As a result, children behave well and learn to be kind to each other. The thoughtfully planned playrooms create an inviting environment for children where they can develop their independence. Children freely access the outdoor area for the majority of each session, which supports children in their understanding of living things in the natural world. Children enjoy growing vegetables, digging and using simple scientific tools, such as magnifiers. They delight in testing out their physical skills on the wide variety of equipment and exploring natural materials as they use sticks and hay to make horses. Staff talk to children about healthy food choices as they enjoy their fresh cooked lunch.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Children are learning to be independent, for example by pouring drinks at the snack table. Older children are well prepared for school when the time comes. Their literacy skills are developing well. Children recognise the sounds that letters make and some know how to read and write their own name.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY449680
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1096859
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 - 5
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Happy Hands Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902515
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2017
Telephone number	01604 758 001

Happy Hands Day Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and level 6, and one has early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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