Pixieland Mannamead

162 Mannamead Road, Mannamead, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 5QL



Inspection date	26 July 2017
Previous inspection date	4 March 2015

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager and staff form exceptionally strong bonds with children, which helps children develop very high self-esteem and learn excellent social skills. Older children are extremely kind and caring. They put their friends' needs above their own, such as choosing to serve food to other children before themselves at lunchtime.
- Staff plan a wide range of activities that build successfully on children's next steps in learning. Children have lots of opportunities to practise their early writing skills. For example, toddlers use chalks to draw on different surfaces in the garden, and older children skilfully write their name. All children make good progress in their learning and development across all areas.
- The manager is ambitious and evaluates the provision effectively to identify and target areas for development. For instance, since the last inspection, she has implemented a good variety of strategies to welcome, value and support children and families who speak English as an additional language.
- Children benefit from an extremely well-resourced and stimulating learning environment. They are motivated to learn and excitedly explore their surroundings.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to initiate and introduce mathematical concepts during children's self-chosen play, to extend their counting skills and knowledge of shapes and measurement further.
- Due to their enthusiasm, staff sometimes help the older children too readily and do not encourage them to think about and work things out for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities for all children to learn about numbers, counting, and shapes and measurement, to extend their mathematical development further
- make consistently good use of all opportunities to encourage the older children to try to solve problems by themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions with staff and each other, and their engagement during planned activities and self-chosen play.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager, to evaluate the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke with children, their parents and staff to take account of their feedback during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team at an appropriate time during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including self-evaluation, children's learning records, and staff's training and qualification certificates.

Inspector

Sarah Madge

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a robust knowledge of the signs and symptoms that may cause concerns about a child's welfare, and the procedures to follow to seek advice from the relevant authorities. They carry out daily checks to ensure a safe environment for children and supervise them closely at all times. For example, they routinely count children as they move between areas of the premises to make sure that all children are present. The manager monitors children's progress and staff performance well. She is keen to develop staff's skills and knowledge, to drive improvement in the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. For instance, training has helped to strengthen staff's knowledge of behaviour management strategies.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff build effective ongoing partnerships with parents to provide consistency for children and extend their learning. For example, they display posters to suggest how parents can support children to work towards particular skills each week. Staff accurately assess children and know how to extend their development. For example, they interact with babies enthusiastically, using different tones to capture their attention and encourage them to respond. Toddlers gain good strength and muscle control as they climb on soft-play equipment and re-enact what they know through imaginative play, such as pretending to cook meals. Older children draw pictures with care and purpose, and they skilfully ride bicycles and scooters to navigate obstacles outside. Staff work closely with outside agencies and parents to meet the needs of children with developmental delays, to help them make good progress from their individual starting points.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff get to know children's individual care needs and routines extremely well from the start, and children settle in very quickly. Staff prioritise children's health and maintain consistently very high standards of hygiene. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Children show great interest in each other and learn to cooperate and work exceptionally well together. For example, babies stroke each other's faces curiously, and older children offer to help each other, such as to carry and pour a heavy container of water. Toddlers are polite and use very good manners without prompts from staff. Older children recognise and talk very confidently about emotions and feelings, such as when adding detailed facial features to play dough faces. All children confidently take responsibility for small tasks. For example, babies and toddlers join in readily with tidying away the toys, and older children very skilfully use utensils to serve and eat meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills for their future learning, including the move to school. They arrive eagerly with a positive attitude and persevere at their chosen tasks. Children communicate well and form excellent social skills. For example, older children use the illustrations of a book to help them tell their friends a story. Children are creative and imaginative, and they develop a strong sense of self-esteem.

Setting details

Unique reference number 117141

Local authority Plymouth

Inspection number 1089167

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

Total number of places 79

Number of children on roll 124

Name of registered person Pixieland (South West) Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP911221

Date of previous inspection 4 March 2015

Telephone number 01752 770550

Pixieland Mannamead registered in 1996 in the Mannamead area of Plymouth. It is part of a chain of four privately owned nurseries in Plymouth and Cornwall. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 20 staff who work directly with the children. Of these, two staff hold early years professional status, two hold relevant degrees, and the remaining staff all hold relevant qualifications at level 2 and level 3.

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