

Highmore Hedgehogs Nursery

Westfields Community Hall, Highmore Street, HEREFORD, HR4 9PG



Inspection date	13 September 2017
Previous inspection date	3 April 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

- Managers and staff are enthusiastic about their roles and make good use of self-evaluation to maintain standards throughout the nursery. Managers regularly meet with staff to identify training and development opportunities and discuss how they can enhance their practice and the experiences offered to children. This has a positive impact on the outcomes for children.
- Children are happy, settled and motivated to learn. The environment is bright and welcoming. Children independently access a wide range of interesting resources, toys and equipment both indoors and outside.
- Children enjoy lots of sensory play. They excitedly use their fingers to explore textures, such as flour and water. They competently fill and empty small containers with the runny mixture.
- Partnerships with other providers are good. Staff effectively share information with them. Children's care and learning are consistent and complemented. Parents speak very highly of the staff and comment how happy and content their children are at the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss opportunities to ask the parents enough information about what their children know and can already do at home when they first start, to help plan precisely enough for children's learning from the outset.
- Managers do not consistently monitor the quality of children's assessments or the effectiveness of their planned next steps in learning to secure children's rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek more precise, detailed information from parents about what children can already do when they first begin to attend, so that starting points are firmly established
- monitor children's assessments even more accurately to ensure planned next steps can be measured and achieved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and observed children engaged in a variety of learning experiences.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a learning activity with the room supervisor.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector talked to the management team about priorities for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand how to recognise possible signs and symptoms of abuse, and are confident in the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff complete daily safety checks and talk to children about risks within the environment. Managers implement robust procedures for recruitment and check the ongoing suitability of staff. All the required documentation is in place and records accurately reflect details of any accidents or incidents involving children. Staff have good relationships with outside agencies. This means that children who are slightly behind in their communication and language are well supported. Staff successfully help parents to continue their child's learning at home. For example, they encourage children to borrow books to read at home with them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how children learn and respond well to their individual needs. They provide a good range of experiences that enables children to lead their own play and build on their interests. Staff check children's individual progress to identify any gaps in learning and development. This ensures children receive any additional support they may need to help them catch up. Children learn key skills in literacy, such as through letters and sounds activities. They use their imagination as they excitedly engage in role play. Children invite visitors to join their play as they pretend to be firefighters. They successfully express their creativity as they make marks with paint and pencils. Children are focused and show high levels of concentration as they cut small shapes to stick to paper. Young children carefully manoeuvre small cars and park them in the garage.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Key persons are attentive and children form warm, trusting relationships with them. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being and they demonstrate high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, they help themselves to snacks and drinks. Behaviour is good. Staff encourage children to show kindness to each other and praise children for their achievements. Children enjoy lots of fresh air and exercise. They excitedly use ride-on toys and delight in playing games which encourage them to jump and count. Staff teach children about the wider world and they learn how to accept and respect differences in others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stages of learning. They are confident and eagerly explore their surroundings. Children's early mathematical skills are developing well. They learn about numbers, counting, shapes and size in everyday activities. Young children learn to share and take turns and to be kind to each other. Early literacy skills are emerging well. Children enjoy listening to stories and they are beginning to recognise their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464526
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	1088163
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Highmore Hedgehogs Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532733
Date of previous inspection	3 April 2014
Telephone number	07896967772

Highmore Hedgehogs Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3, including three at level 5 and one with early years teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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