

Busy Bees at Sevenoaks

Positive Steps Childrens Day Nursery, 1 St. Johns Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3LR



Inspection date

18 September 2017

Previous inspection date

26 May 2016

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 new management team is committed to continually developing the nursery. This helps to ensure planned improvements are achieved and outcomes for children are good.
- Staff work well as a team and display a professional approach and inclusive practice. This helps to promote equal opportunities for all children.
- The strong key-person system helps to promote regular engagement with parents. Staff regularly share information about the good progress children are making.
- Staff know how children learn. From their interactions with children and their observations, they accurately assess how well children are progressing.
- Children behave well. Staff give them lots of praise to acknowledge their achievements and encourage them. Minor conflicts are managed sensitively and this helps children learn good social skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently ensure they provide the best possible learning opportunities for those children who prefer to be outside.
- Sometimes, the organisation of activities does not fully encourage children to do things for themselves and support their independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the learning and development opportunities for children who prefer to be outdoors
- provide more opportunities for children to develop their independence and lead their own learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with staff and observed children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.
- The inspector looked at the nursery's self-evaluation process with the manager.

Inspector

Mary Vandeppeer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children. They know whom to report to should they have any concerns. Suitable recruitment and vetting arrangements help to ensure children's welfare and safety. Management supports staff well and encourages them to attend training and take advantage of in-house professional development opportunities. For example, to improve the monitoring and tracking of key children with the manager, to help close any gaps in their learning. Management and staff work closely with external agencies to ensure children receive the additional support they need. The self-evaluation process is under review with the new management team. Nonetheless, it continues to reflect on practices to help ensure improvements are made where needed to achieve the best outcomes for children. Management ensures that required adult-to-child ratios are met and that staff are deployed well to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff offer a stimulating and exciting range of resources that captures children's interest. Overall, children are engaged, motivated and show good levels of involvement during their play. There is a strong focus on developing children's speaking and listening skills. Staff introduce new vocabulary as children play, for example, as they mix paints together to make new colours. A popular story is used to help children develop their imagination as they act it out. Real wood blocks and toy characters create a 'forest scene', helping children tell their own story. Babies have plenty of space to crawl and learn to walk. They engage well with the age-appropriate toys available at floor level. For instance, they can see, feel and explore a variety of different textures and materials using everyday items, such as brushes, whisks and wooden utensils.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settle in this safe, warm and welcoming nursery. Staff are good role models and children develop a good understanding of acceptable behaviour. For example, older children wait patiently for their lunch to be served and happily interact with each other. A well-planned menu helps children benefit from eating healthy foods. Children enjoy free choice of play as they can easily access the resources available. Toddlers develop control over their bodies as they climb safely and move around their environment. Older children play 'detectives' as they help risk assess their environment. This helps them understand how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They have lots of opportunities to make marks using different media, such as paint and pencils. Children enjoy stories and songs, joining in when they are confident enough. Children are prepared well for further learning, such as at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477986
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1113478
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 - 8
Total number of places	92
Number of children on roll	151
Name of registered person	Positive Steps Childrens Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911260
Date of previous inspection	26 May 2016
Telephone number	01732 450466

Busy Bees at Sevenoaks registered in 2016. It is located in Sevenoaks, Kent. The nursery is part of the Busy Bees nursery chain of over 300 other nurseries. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery operates for most of the year, closing for one week between Christmas and New Year and on bank holidays. It is open between the hours of 7.30am and 6.15pm from Monday to Friday. There are 36 staff and, of these, 16 hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 and above. This includes two staff members who hold qualified teacher status and two members of staff who hold a qualification at level 5.

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