

# Elm Tree Nursery

Elm Tree Primary School, Ranworth Avenue, Lowestoft, NR33 9HN



## Inspection date

10 November 2017

Previous inspection date

1 May 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 owner works well with the nursery leader to provide strong leadership for the staff team. They have a clear and accurate overview of the quality of the nursery. Detailed action plans are in place to help the nursery continue to improve.
- The well-qualified staff understand how children learn. They join in with children's play, helping them to explore ideas and offering explanations to develop their learning.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities receive excellent support from their caring key persons. Sensitive interactions from staff help children to build relationships, play alongside other children and express their needs.
- Children at the nursery are learning important skills to prepare them for school. Staff encourage children to become independent and manage their self-care.
- Staff encourage children to behave well. They set clear expectations and praise children for sharing toys with their friends.
- Children who learn by being active are well catered for. The outdoor area is well planned to encourage children to try out their ideas, negotiate with others and develop their physical skills. They make links in their learning as they build and create with the large planks and building blocks.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, when staff bring all of the children together for an activity, teaching is not precisely planned to ensure all children are challenged to the best of their ability.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the planning of those activities which involve larger numbers of children, to consistently provide highly challenging learning experiences for all children.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the nursery and outdoor area. She assessed the impact activities have on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff during the inspection to obtain their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the owner of the nursery.
- The inspector held meetings with the owner and the nursery leader. She looked at relevant documents and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Helen Hyett

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through training. They understand the signs which may indicate that a child is at risk from harm. Regular supervision meetings help staff to discuss their professional development and identify any training needs. For example, staff attend training to help them understand how to promote children's speech and language skills. The nursery leader, who holds a degree level qualification, encourages staff to watch each other teach. Staff report that this helps them to gain new ideas and think about where they can continue to improve. The nursery owner actively encourages staff to gain further qualifications in order to enhance their understanding of children's development. Monitoring of children's progress is thorough and effective. Staff work well together to identify gaps in children's learning and put plans in place to address these. The nursery leaders also check how groups of children are progressing. This helps them to see how they can best support children to develop in all areas of their learning.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their play and benefit from a wide range of interesting experiences. They become engaged in their role play as they dress up as doctors and use the toy thermometers and stethoscopes. Staff join in with the children enthusiastically as they pretend to be patients and ask questions to encourage the children to talk. Children have fun playing at the water tray. They become absorbed in their learning as they use the bottles to pour water into funnels. Staff help children to understand mathematical concepts, such as full and empty. Staff work well with parents and involve them in their child's learning. Parents report that they find the nursery parents' evenings very beneficial to talk to staff and find out how their child is progressing. Staff share their assessments of children's development with parents and offer ideas of how parents can continue to help their child to learn at home.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to make healthy choices. They encourage them to try new foods, such as peppers and a cheese dip for snack time. Staff sensitively help children with their personal hygiene. They assist children with learning to use the potty or toilet and give parents tips on how they can encourage their child with this at home. Children settle quickly at the nursery. They develop positive relationships with their key persons and look to them for encouragement. Children learn to take responsibility in the nursery. They enjoy tidying up, singing along to a tidy-up song while they put away their toys.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those who receive additional funding, make good progress in all areas of their learning. They learn to get along with their peers and solve problems when they both want the same toy. Two-year-old children join in with rhymes and move their bodies to music. Older children use numbers in their play and start to count accurately.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY473432
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	1088268
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	49
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Havers Development Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP521877
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 May 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01502562930

Elm Tree Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery owner employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at a minimum of level 3. The owner holds early years professional status and two staff hold degree level qualifications. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am and 12.15pm until 3.15pm. A lunch club also operates from 11.45am until 12.15pm.

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