

Caterpillars Day Nursery

Kingston Liberal Synagogue, Rushett Road, THAMES DITTON, Surrey, KT7 0UX



Inspection date 19 January 2018
Previous inspection date 23 July 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 manager knows how to help children to learn effectively. She regularly meets with staff to discuss teaching and learning. She provides staff with the training they need to increase their skills and experience.
- Staff watch children carefully and note what they need to learn next. Inside and outside, they provide children with challenging experiences that are closely matched to their learning needs and interests.
- Strong relationships are evident across the staff team. Staff are effective role models for children. They have good expectations for children's behaviour. Children are communicative and friendly to one another as they play together.
- Children clearly enjoy coming to nursery. At the start of the day, some children are seen to run excitedly into the nursery and quickly begin to play. They are enthusiastic and motivated learners. Children are well prepared for school.
- The learning environment is carefully planned. It provides children with a broad range of relevant and interesting experiences. Staff ask questions that encourage children to think. Staff teach children to listen to others and express their ideas clearly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff benefit from frequent discussions about their performance, they do not observe one another to improve their teaching to the highest level.
- Staff have not established systems to ensure that when children attend more than one setting, information about their learning and development is effectively shared.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the systems to help staff reflect on their practice and improve teaching to an outstanding level
- ensure that information about children's learning and development is shared effectively with other early years settings children attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children, inside and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including safeguarding information, staff development records, children's assessments and relevant policies.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Teresa Kiely

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager accurately knows the nursery's strengths and areas for development. She takes effective action to improve the quality of the provision. She has developed an effective programme of supervision and support to further develop the staff. They speak appreciatively of recent training to improve their interactions with children. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are competent to identify and respond promptly when a child may be at risk of harm. They demonstrate a good understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff have a shared understanding of effective nursery practice. They have established systems that help them to assess children's learning when they start nursery. Staff make regular assessments and provide activities designed to further develop children's individual learning. Staff know how to encourage children to talk about their learning, and when to stand back and enable them to learn independently. They help children to talk about what they are doing; for example, when they excitedly break ice to find dinosaur bones. Boys cooperate with one another as they work together mark making and developing their early number knowledge. Outside, children make an obstacle course and then enjoy negotiating this together, working well as a small group.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide warm and nurturing support to children. They know each child and their family circumstances very well. This helps to keep children safe. Staff know how to promote a healthy lifestyle. Children enjoy planned time outside, developing their physical skills and enjoying the fresh air. The nursery provides children with healthy snacks. During the morning, children cook together to make cheese straws that they can all share later. Children stir food in their own bowls, and some begin to recognise numbers on the weighing scales. Children enjoy visits from the local community, and they talk excitedly about a recent visit from the police.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, make good progress in their learning. Younger children join in and take pleasure in their accomplishments, for example, when they independently make a house from rectangular and square shapes on the light box. Children know how to sort objects into sound boxes, matching initial sounds to letters. Children take pride in working with others. They know how to develop a road network and include a carefully planned level crossing. They can talk about their work, and engage visitors confidently in conversation about their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368703
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1070966
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	39
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	Rebecca Baxter
Registered person unique reference number	RP515106
Date of previous inspection	23 July 2014
Telephone number	0208 873 2405

Caterpillars Day Nursery registered in 2008. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. In addition, the manager has early years professional status. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 12.15pm, term time only. The nursery also offers an extended session for children to stay for lunch from 12.15pm to 1.15pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. On these days, there is an afternoon session from 12.15pm to 2.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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