

Busy Bees Preschool

26 Elizabeth Court, Laindon, Basildon, Essex, SS15 5AG



Inspection date

17 January 2018

Previous inspection date

27 September 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 and staff team have worked hard to secure significant improvements in the quality of all aspects of the pre-school. Children are safe and learn well through play.
- Staff evaluate their practice and children's progress well. They use their findings to plan for improvements and to sustain the improvements already made.
- The focus on supporting children's speaking and listening skills has a positive impact on their learning. Children develop a wide vocabulary and use their voices to communicate with staff and other children.
- The changes to the way the room is organised have enabled staff to work more effectively with their key children. In addition, children have a wider range of resources freely available to them.
- Partnerships with parents continue to work well in meeting children's needs. Parents say they know about what their children do each day. They praise staff for the work they do with the children that has helped them to improve their behaviour, concentration and speech.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The plans for some adult-led activities are not always clear and staff try to cover too many aspects in one go. Children are not always sure what they are learning.
- The small outdoor area is not organised consistently well for children to easily play and explore the resources.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the plans for adult-led activities to ensure that all staff are clear about the learning intentions, to help extend children's knowledge
- review the organisation of the outdoor area to allow children greater opportunities to fully explore the experiences provided.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working with the children and of the committee.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection, looked at letters from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff recognise the possible signs that children may be likely to suffer harm. They know how to make a safeguarding referral. Staff have taken the necessary steps to ensure the areas used by children are safe. They ensure that children do not have unsupervised access to the internet. Staff benefit from regular supervision and support where they reflect on their practice and consider the needs of the children. The manager monitors staff practice effectively and tracks children's progress. Staff identify gaps in children's learning and act quickly to help children catch up. Partnerships with other professionals are successful. Staff engage well with training. They take the opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills to enhance the quality of teaching for all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from the opportunities to learn as they play. Staff plan and prepare a variety of experiences for all children. The good levels of interaction between staff and children help to aid children's concentration. Staff listen to what children say, for example, as they play with the dough. Overall, they introduce challenges for children to help them extend their learning. For example, when children make stars from the dough, staff encourage the children to identify the sounds of initial letters. They further challenge them to find the printed letters on the cards. During registration time, children show that they recognise their names and can even spot the difference between uppercase and lowercase letters. Staff frequently observe and assess children's development. They plan effectively for individual children. Staff know children well and use their interests effectively to help them enjoy their time in pre-school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to make good relationships. This helps children to feel settled and secure at pre-school. Children behave well. They listen when staff speak to them and follow instructions well. Staff are effective role models who help children to learn how to share toys, take turns in games and get along with other children. The staff include daily outdoor time to enable children to enjoy fresh air and exercise. A topic about the importance of making healthy choices and trying to avoid eating too much sugar is effective. Children recognise the foods that they should eat regularly and those that they should only have occasionally.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are confident and gain the essential skills they need for the next stages in their learning, such as in school. Children are eager to learn about letters and the sounds they make. They explore numbers in their play and develop an understanding of how money is used as they play shops with the staff. Children enjoy listening to stories. They are eager to join in with finishing sentences and predicting what comes next.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481779
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1115404
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	26
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520640
Date of previous inspection	27 September 2017
Telephone number	01268 418 555

Busy Bees Preschool registered in 2014. The preschool employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 and two members of staff hold early years qualifications at level 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during school term times. Sessions are from 8.15am until 2.45pm. A holiday club sometimes operates, according to demand. The provider is in receipt of funding to offer free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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