Sunflowers Nursery School



Old School House, Church Lane, Saxilby, LINCOLN, LN1 2PE

Inspection date31 January 201Previous inspection date7 October 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

- Staff promote children's individual dietary requirements, personal hygiene and safety well. They provide a clean and inviting environment for children. All staff are trained in first aid and are able to deal with an emergency quickly.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well by the manager and staff. Targeted plans are in place and they know the importance of early intervention.
- Staff help children to learn about how to keep themselves safe. When older children walk to school, they talk to them about road safety. Staff ask younger children to hold on to a 'walking rope' to ensure that children stay together, promoting their safety.
- Children demonstrate that they are emotionally secure. They confidently talk to staff about their needs and wishes. Babies snuggle into their key person for comfort and reassurance and settle quickly.
- Staff observe and monitor children's learning and share their findings with parents. This helps parents to understand children's levels of development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide children with enough opportunities to learn about similarities and differences in family or friends.
- Staff do not always recognise when to adapt their teaching to further extend and challenge children's learning, to help them achieve at the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to learn about similarities and differences
- strengthen staff's teaching to help identify when to extend and challenge children's learning.

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 a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager gathers feedback from staff, parents and children to help identify ongoing improvements to the nursery. Recent changes further promote children's safety outdoors. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know their responsibilities to help keep children safe. The manager supports her staff well in their roles through supervisory meetings. Staff reflect on their practice and identify further professional development opportunities to help provide consistently good teaching. Recent training has helped staff to support children's communication and language skills. The manager has formed strong links with the local school that children attend. She shares information about children's learning and staff take children for visits to attend special events. This helps children to be familiar with the school before they move on.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather children's interests from parents and plan activities to promote these in the nursery. They give babies choices during group times and help them develop their communication and language skills. Staff ask children to choose a soft-toy animal and sing nursery rhymes that reflect the toys they have chosen. Staff encourage children to learn the names of body parts. They ask them to point to their nose and eyes. Children demonstrate good listening skills. Staff help younger children to develop their mathematical skills. They count the number of blocks when they build a tower and younger children copy, counting to three. Staff use different strategies to engage boys in developing their literacy skills. For example, children lie on the floor and make marks on paper that is taped to the bottom of tables.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff invite children to attend settling-in sessions to become familiar with staff and the environment. Staff ask parents to bring comforters form home that staff use to help children to settle, promoting their emotional well-being. Small-group activities encourage children to share and take turns. Children demonstrate positive behaviour. Staff give children a thumbs up, clap their hands and give them verbal praise for their achievements. This helps to raise children's self-esteem. Children use sign language for please and thank you and demonstrate good manners. The nursery cook provides children with a healthy range of meals and snacks. Parents comment on how effective the cook and staff are at catering for their child's individual dietary requirements.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress in their learning. Older children develop their imagination when they pretend to zoom into space. They spin in a circle and pretend to be planets. Babies reach out to pop bubbles. This helps them to develop their balance and coordination. Children prepare and serve their own food, demonstrating their independence. They learn key skills in preparation for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388910	
Local authority	Lincolnshire	
Inspection number	1122624	
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 - 9	
Total number of places	80	
Number of children on roll	130	
Name of registered person	Sunflower Smile Limited	
Registered person unique reference number	RP901709	
Date of previous inspection	7 October 2016	
Telephone number	01522 702155	

Sunflowers Nursery School registered in 2009. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and a week over Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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