Lightwater Nursery School

Lightwater Leisure Centre, Lightwater Country Park, The Avenue, Lightwater, Surrey, GU18 5RG



-		7 February 2018 Not applicable	
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection Previous inspecti	-	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide an exceptional range of activities that excites and motivates children to learn. Children make excellent progress from their starting points. They are exceptionally confident, well behaved and independent.
- Staff have an in-depth knowledge of children's individual needs. They successfully develop children's sense of security and provide outstanding support for the whole family. Staff work very effectively with parents and other agencies to meet all children's individual needs.
- Staff support children's pre-reading and writing skills very effectively. All children, including boys, develop an immense interest in drawing and writing. For instance, children eagerly attempt to write their name to register their arrival at the nursery.
- Staff provide exceptionally positive role models for children. They patiently give children time to talk, share their ideas and help them achieve what they set out to do. Staff consistently recognise and celebrate children's individual achievements and build their excellent self-confidence.
- Leaders and managers coach and support staff very effectively to continually improve their outstanding teaching practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

■ continue to help younger children develop good concentration skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked with children, parents, staff, leaders and managers.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the setting's process for self-evaluation.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as staff records, training certificates and records of children's learning.

Inspector

Catherine Greenwood

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an extremely sound knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures. Self-evaluation is highly effective. Since registration, leaders have successfully trained staff to significantly improve children's creative development. Staff now encourage children to use their ideas and imagination during activities rather than planning activities for children to produce an identified end product. Leaders have also worked with staff to introduce 'loose parts play'. There are now numerous interesting real-life objects that children explore and use in different ways.

Leaders and managers regularly check children's progress with staff and parents, and quickly identify and reduce any gaps in children's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff communication and interaction with children is exceptional. They constantly respond to what children say and do, to extend their development extremely effectively. Staff engage children in conversation and ask questions that encourage children to respond and develop their excellent vocabulary. Children make marks in dried lentils, connect washers and nuts, and transfer water using small jugs. Staff support children's understanding of the world extremely effectively. For instance, they take them on walks in the nearby woods to take photographs of a marked patch of ground. They return to this area throughout the year for children to observe changes in growth. However, staff have not yet fully considered other ways to build younger children's good concentration skills during group story times.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff greet children and their parents in an extremely friendly way. They provide an exceptionally welcoming and positive environment for children to learn. Children are very familiar with the daily routine and are extremely emotionally secure and settled. When staff ask children what makes them happy, they say 'coming to nursery'. Children develop excellent social skills and close friendships. Staff successfully develop children's sense of achievement. For instance, they tell children that they like that they keep on trying even when the activity is difficult. Staff promote children's good health extremely well. They encourage children to think and talk about how they can keep themselves safe. For instance, when children jump off constructions they make from wooden blocks.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children develop a wide range of skills that prepares them extremely well for starting school. Gaps in their learning are quickly identified and narrowed. Boys are now reaching expected levels in their literacy development. Children energetically build large constructions, put on hardhats and use toy tools while pretending to be builders. Some children independently create written plans to make decisions about their constructions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493670
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1025931
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Two Rivers Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535346
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01276 472662

Lightwater Nursery School registered in 2015. It is located in Lightwater, Surrey. It opens Monday to Friday during term time, from 9am until 3pm. The nursery employs eight staff. Of whom, one has early years professional status, one has a primary teaching qualification, one has a level 4 qualification and three have level 3 qualifications. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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