

Little Bears Day Nursery Ltd



Hill Farm House, 44 Old Groveway, Simpson, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK6 3AA

Inspection date	14 February 2018
Previous inspection date	9 June 2015

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 provider and staff are well qualified and highly reflective about their practice. They make effective changes to help them to continually improve outcomes for children. For example, staff have made changes to the environment to make it more enticing for children to explore. They talk about the positive impact this has on children's learning.
- Children have many opportunities to be energetic as they engage in physical activities. Babies enjoy participating in music sessions, using their bodies in dance and movement. Other children enjoy using spades to dig in the soil outdoors and playing ball games.
- Staff help children to develop a good understanding of the world. For example, they use effective questioning when children are using construction toys. Children talk about making space rockets and explain why they need a telescope. They understand that a space rocket is needed to get to the moon.
- Parents speak positively about the care and education their children receive. They feel the staff provide a homely atmosphere and this helps children to settle and feel secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The managers and staff do not always provide parents with the best possible information on how their children are developing to help them to support their learning at home.
- Staff do not always encourage pre-school children to express their own ideas and use their creativity when taking part in adult-planned activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide parents with more regular information on how their children are developing to promote further continuity in the good progress children make
- support children in the pre-school room to express their own ideas and creativity when taking part in adult-planned activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's teaching and interactions with children indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children and held a meeting with the provider.
- The inspector observed an adult-led activity with the provider and held a discussion with her about children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a sample of paperwork, including staff's qualifications and suitability checks. The safeguarding policies and procedures were also seen.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The managers and staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate concerns about children's welfare. The provider has rigorous recruitment procedures to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. New staff talk positively about their induction to the nursery. For example, they have an allocated mentor and are supported to gain a good understanding of the policies and procedures. Staff's performance is monitored through regular observations of their practice and supervisory meetings. Staff talk about the positive impact that training and their own research have on their practice. For example, staff in the baby room have increased their knowledge of child development and other staff have implemented new planning strategies across the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular observations of children's learning and use these to inform planning and to support children's ongoing good progress. They provide activities and resources based on children's current interests, appropriate to their development needs. For example, when children show an interest in technology, staff provide old equipment for children to take apart and investigate what is inside. Children use tools, such as screwdrivers, with skill and precision. Staff encourage babies to test out sound by using wooden claves. They bang them together and on the floor, and staff help them to tap out a beat as they sing songs. Staff make good use of spontaneous opportunities to promote children's mathematical skills. For example, when children are taking out screws they help them to understand different ways to make four, such as by adding two and two together or adding three and one together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Regardless of the weather conditions, children dress appropriately and venture eagerly outside. They choose from a wide variety of highly stimulating resources and benefit from active, physical play. Children of all ages enjoying spending time together, such as at mealtimes. During quieter weeks children from different age groups join together. Their key persons support them well and they play happily. Staff feel these times help children when they move to the next age group as they have already built up a good relationship with staff. Children show care and concern for each other. For example, they talk about how they love everyone at nursery and express sadness when they hear one of their friends is not attending as they are not feeling well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are well prepared with the skills they need for their next stage of learning and for starting school. Babies hold crayons well, some using a pincer grasp to make marks on paper. Children's literacy development is good. They enjoy books as they share stories with adults or look at books independently. Many pre-school children are able to recognise their names and the names of other children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY226139
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1091405
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 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Little Bears Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP520471
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015
Telephone number	01908 232832

Little Bears Day Nursery registered in 2002. It is open on weekdays from 7.30am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs nine members of staff, eight of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications between level 2 and level 6.

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