

Dolphins Day Nursery

West End Lane, Horsforth, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS18 5JP



Inspection date

9 March 2018

Previous inspection date

22 February 2013

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 management and staff team are very committed to providing children with high-quality care and education. They are highly skilled and qualified and evaluate the nursery well. Their passion and dedication have helped to create a strong, cohesive staff team.
- Children have extremely positive attitudes towards their play and learning. They are inquisitive, enjoy exploring the natural environment and remain focused for long periods of time. They listen to and watch adults and use what they learn from their play to develop new ideas and ways of thinking.
- Staff are very good role models for children. They manage behaviour very well with consideration of the individual needs of the child. Children have extremely good relationships and interactions with staff. They are happy, confident and secure.
- Partnerships with parents are a real strength of the nursery. Parents are very involved in every aspect of their child's education. Parents are supported to extend their child's learning at home. Parents comment that their children enjoy their experiences at the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of group times means that older and most-able children cannot fully concentrate, sometimes.
- The programme of professional development is not highly focused to target the development of staff, in order to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide older children with more opportunities to concentrate without distractions
- build on the programme of continuous professional development, so that the quality of teaching constantly improves and this reflects in the very best outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the nursery. She observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact on children's learning. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at records and documentation, including the suitability of adults working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views and comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a detailed knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow should they have any concerns. Procedures are in place to help to maintain children's safety at all times. Staff thoroughly assess all aspects of the care and learning environment to minimise all risks. The manager reviews children's assessments regularly and has very robust monitoring systems in place. This includes checking the progress of individual and groups of children and those in receipt of additional funding. This, in conjunction with the detailed evaluation process, helps leaders and managers target where the most support is needed for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff motivate children effectively to make independent choices about what they want to do and where they want to play. Children use a variety of tools to experiment with, such as when making marks. For instance, older children competently write with pens, while younger children investigate making marks in the sand and gloop with a range of tools. Staff play alongside children and extend their language and communication skills, for example, through the use of a broad range of questioning techniques. Children use their imaginations well. Outdoors, children make 'porridge' and 'soup' with a range of resources. They work together discussing their options and how many bowls they need for the bears. This supports children's understanding of mathematics. Staff use their observations of children's play to help to identify their next steps for learning and plan exciting and interesting activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are able to settle in when they start attending. Staff work individually with each family. They offer visits to gradually introduce the child and their parents to the nursery. Staff are effective in supporting children to move successfully into the next age group room. This move is planned with parents. Children show that they feel a sense of well-being and belonging in the nursery. Babies readily settle to sleep and wake happily. Healthy lifestyles are promoted. Children enjoy their meals and snacks and have access to drinking water at all times. They thoroughly enjoy the wide range of activities and resources in the nursery garden that promotes their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children select books, sit with their friends and talk about their favourite characters in stories. From the youngest ages children explore and investigate during activities. They look at the impact of light on various objects using a light box and how they make shadows on the wall. Children demonstrate their interest in computers. They are becoming very competent at manipulating the keyboard and following the computer instructions. They are swiftly becoming successful learners who are well prepared for their next stage of learning and the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY296509
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	1064666
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 - 5
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	108
Name of registered person	Dolphins Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525126
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2013
Telephone number	01132 585 800

Dolphins Day Nursery registered in 2004. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status and one who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. 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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