

Little Elms Daycare Crofton

109a Crofton Road, Orpington, Kent, BR6 8HU



Inspection date

16 March 2018

Previous inspection date

29 May 2014

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The dedicated manager and her deputy work well together to manage a strong and enthusiastic staff team. They have clear expectations which they share effectively with all staff. The manager seeks the views of parents and staff to help evaluate the setting. They work successfully as a team to develop and maintain the good quality of care.
- Staff are exceptionally kind, very nurturing and sensitive. They are highly skilled at recognising and supporting children's individual needs. Children are extremely happy, confident and settled. Parents comment on the 'amazing' bonds that children develop with the staff.
- Staff monitor and track children's development effectively. They work closely with the managers to ensure that any gaps in children's learning are quickly recognised and addressed. This ensures children are well supported to make progress and develop the skills needed for future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The quality of staff interactions with the children is sometimes inconsistent across the team. Some staff do not consistently use their good knowledge of children's abilities and interests to build on play experiences and further support their learning.
- Staff do not consistently make the most of some activities planned for pre-school children. At times, staff move on quickly and children do not have sufficient time to talk about and share their understanding of things which interest them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the quality of staff interactions with children so that children's learning is consistently extended as they play
- strengthen the organisation of some activities to enable pre-school children time to share their developing knowledge of the world around them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the staff and children in the inside space and the outside environment.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and looked at developmental records for individual children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including staff records, monitoring information and policies.
- The inspector talked to parents and children and considered the views of parents from written feedback.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures all staff have an understanding of their role and the procedures to follow in regards to safeguarding. Staff know the children well and are confident in recognising and recording concerns, such as any changes to children's personalities or well-being. The manager works with her deputy to monitor staff practice effectively and offers them regular support and coaching. They work closely with staff to source relevant training opportunities. This helps staff to develop their skills and make positive changes to practice. For example, staff use the knowledge gained from training to reconsider their planning for two-year-olds. This has led to activities providing more opportunities for young children to reach realistic targets.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff maintain strong partnerships with parents. They effectively share information and meet regularly with parents to discuss children's progress and next steps in learning. This helps to support continuity of care and learning. Overall, staff use their good knowledge of children to successfully offer experiences that children enjoy and that help them to make good progress. For example, staff continually respond to and repeat young babies' 'babble' as they use their bodies to explore flour. Staff introduce simple relevant words which give meaning to the 'chat' and link to the babies' play. Young children start to show good language skills as they repeat simple words linked to characters in books. Older children develop into confident communicators who enjoy using their well-developed communication skills to talk to their friends as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff maintain a rich environment with an abundance of motivating and stimulating resources, which helps provide children with endless opportunities to explore. Children show high levels of cooperation and an excellent understanding of aspects of safety. For example, when they finish using scissors, older children independently turn the scissors round, offering the handle safely to their friends. Children show good manners and respond with a 'thank you'. Staff are dedicated to supporting children to be healthy. For example, they provide an excellent range of healthy and nutritious meals and endless opportunities for outdoor experiences. Babies go on daily walks in the local area. Older children go on trips with staff to ride on the bus to purchase ingredients for cooking activities from local shops. These experiences help children develop highly impressive social skills and give them excellent opportunities to learn about the wider world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are keen learners who develop lifelong skills, such as managing aspects of their independence and self-care. For example, babies learn to explore food and start to show developing coordination as they practise using spoons. Older children serve themselves at mealtimes and use knives and forks with precision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434642
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	1069099
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	95
Number of children on roll	164
Name of registered person	Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902320
Date of previous inspection	29 May 2014
Telephone number	01689878409

Little Elms Daycare Crofton registered in 2011. It is one of nine nurseries owned by Little Elms Day Care Nursery Limited. The setting is based in Orpington in the London Borough of Bromley. The setting opens on weekdays from 7.30am to 6pm all year, except for public holidays. The setting employs 47 staff who work directly with the children, of whom, 32 hold relevant qualifications in childcare. This includes the manager who holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and the deputy manager who holds an early years degree. The setting is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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