The Rowan's Day Nursery

13a Moorfoot, Fullers Slade, Milton Keynes, MK11 2BD



Inspection date	5 April 2018
Previous inspection date	5 February 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 asses	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers ensure that the nursery provides a safe, welcoming and stimulating learning environment for children. They place a high priority on ensuring that all children receive a positive experience of learning and being cared for away from home.
- Staff teach the key skills especially well. For example, they consistently model clear language to help children's developing speaking skills. They provide lots of opportunities for children to develop their physical skills and to learn to play cooperatively. Children make good progress.
- Children show high levels of well-being. They clearly thoroughly enjoy attending nursery. They play and learn purposefully and smile and laugh as they do so.
- Staff build strong partnerships with parents and other professionals. They use these partnerships very successfully to ensure that families receive the support that they may need to ensure that children can achieve well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently gather detailed developmental information about the skills and abilities that children already have when they first start at nursery, to clearly identify where some groups of children make less progress than others.
- Staff do not plan a wide range of experiences to help most-able children begin to develop an understanding of different sounds and letters.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- establish children's starting points more quickly to promptly identify and close any gaps in learning between some groups of children
- improve opportunities for older, most-able children to learn about letters and sounds to build on their developing literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the joint manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their understanding of child protection, safeguarding and first aid.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and parents.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including policies and children's records.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers follow robust recruitment procedures to ensure the suitability of those who they employ. All staff have a very thorough understanding of their responsibility to protect children and what steps to take to raise any concerns about a child's welfare. Managers are good leaders. They accurately monitor the quality of the provision and teaching. They provide staff with regular feedback and training, which has a positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning. For example, they have led staff in a range of improvements to the teaching of mathematics across the nursery. They monitor the progress closely of children for whom they receive additional funding. They successfully engage parents in their children's learning. For example, parents and children take part in reading challenges and receive certificates to celebrate.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are skilled at what they do. They observe children closely and use their assessments of each child's learning to plan for their individual needs. They present learning experiences and resources in highly inviting ways, and children respond by showing good levels of focus and concentration as they play and learn. For example, staff organise seating so that all children can see and hear stories well, and children respond by listening well and joining in with the well-known story. Children show good levels of independence. For example, they make choices about where to play and find their own coats before going outside and aprons when they choose to paint.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff meet children's care needs well. They provide quiet and cosy areas for babies and toddlers to sleep and they ensure that meals are healthy and nutritious. The outdoor learning environment is highly enticing to children and many choose to spend long periods learning through energetic play. Staff and children build warm and trusting bonds with each other. Staff successfully help children to settle into nursery routines and to manage changes, such as when they move rooms within the nursery. Children manage these with confidence and show that they like and trust the staff who look after them. Children behave well. Staff lead by example; they show children how to be kind, considerate and respectful towards each other.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain a broad set of skills in preparation for their future learning and the move to school. They learn to share their thoughts and ideas. They enjoy experiences that take them beyond their home and nursery. For example, children are keen to tell visitors about a trip to a local wildlife centre that staff organised for children and their parents. Children learn to meet their own needs independently. They develop a positive view of learning and that adults that they trust will help, support and encourage them as they master new skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY336016

Local authority Milton Keynes

Inspection number 1085850

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

Total number of places 48

Number of children on roll 83

Name of registered person Milton Keynes Council

Registered person unique

reference number

RP517351

Date of previous inspection 5 February 2015

Telephone number 01908 563269

The Rowan's Day Nursery registered in 2006. It operates from the children's centre in Fullers Slade, Milton Keynes. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 18 members of staff; three hold early years professional status, one holds a level 5 qualification, 12 have relevant qualifications at level 3 and two are qualified at level 2.

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