

Rainbow Little Waltham

Tufnell Hall, The Street Little Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 3NY



Inspection date

23 April 2018

Previous inspection date

7 December 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- Since the last inspection the providers, deputy manager and staff have worked hard to address actions identified. They continually review and develop the quality of the nursery so that children benefit from good learning experiences.
- The qualified and experienced staff use their knowledge well to plan activities that engage and enthuse children to learn. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children's assessment information is regularly reviewed. Staff identify and support children who require additional help. They work well with other professionals from external agencies to narrow any gaps in children's learning.
- Children's independence is fostered extremely well. They thoroughly enjoy doing things for themselves during routine activities throughout the day.
- Relationships are strong. Children are confident learners who build friendships with their peers and staff. Children's behaviour is very good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- While staff track children's assessments to help identify those who require additional support, they are not always as precise at identifying children who are exceeding expectations. This means that, on occasion, activities are not always planned to provide as much challenge as possible for the most able children.
- Children do not consistently have as many opportunities as possible to explore writing as part of their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the arrangements for tracking the most able children's progress so that planning for their next steps in learning is even more precisely challenging
- enhance and enrich opportunities for children to use writing and purposeful marks in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed an evaluation of an activity with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the deputy manager, staff, children and one of the registered providers.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector discussed with the deputy manager and one of the registered providers how they reflect on practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a very good understanding of various child protection issues. They know precisely how to report concerns to protect a child's welfare. Staff are vigilant and supervise children diligently. The nursery is kept secure at all times and the attendance of children, staff and visitors is strictly recorded. This enables the provider to safely account for all persons in the nursery at any time. Daily checks are carried out by staff to ensure that children can play and learn within a safe environment. Staff respect confidentiality. Records are stored securely and are accessible for daily use. Parents report that they are happy to see their children settled and thriving. Good attention is paid to supporting staff's professional development, through staff meetings and regular appraisals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's early communication skills are promoted well. Staff narrate, repeat and ask probing questions. This gives children the time they need to think, listen and respond. Older children are supported well to develop their mathematical skills. Staff make good use of activities in all areas, including the outdoor environment. Children thoroughly enjoy jumping in muddy puddles on the adjoining playing field. Later they have fun thinking and talking about a favourite cartoon character who also enjoys muddy puddles. Children enjoy exciting opportunities to travel locally on the bus. Trips include weekly visits to a local primary school and strawberry picking during the summer. This helps children to become familiar with the local community and confident about moving on to school. Parents take an active part in their children's learning. They contribute information to their child's learning records about their achievements at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are attentive and respond well to children's emotional and physical needs. Hygiene procedures are good and support children's physical health. Routine activities help children to know when to wash their hands and manage other personal tasks. Older children show care and consideration to others, sharing toys and inviting younger children to join in their games. Staff help children to learn about the natural world and discover other cultures and customs during topics and themed activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop skills, such as self-help and early writing, to support their readiness for school. Older children talk confidently with each other and share their thoughts and feelings. Younger children show an interest in making marks and enjoy discovering how red and white paint, mixed together, creates pink. Children are confident to show and talk about items brought in from home. They show good attention as they listen with interest to stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY279472
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1119889
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Rainbow Little Waltham Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP523505
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2017
Telephone number	01245 362622

Rainbow Little Waltham registered in 2004 and is run by a limited company. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 3, two at level 5 and one at level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 9am until 12.30pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 9am until 3.30pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Staff support children's learning using the Montessori ethos and principles.

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