

Blue Elephant Nursery

636 Warwick Road, Tyseley, Birmingham, B11 2HJ



Inspection date

12 June 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager, the provider and staff work successfully together, and with other early years professionals to provide high-quality care and learning for all children. They are well motivated and use detailed and effective self-evaluation to identify and address ongoing improvements to staff's practice and children's learning experiences.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents and they work successfully together to support all children's good progress. Parents share detailed information about what their child knows and can do, helping staff establish clear starting points for their learning. Staff guide parents well in supporting their child's care and learning at home.
- Staff plan interesting activities for children. They measure their progress accurately and plan effective next steps in learning. Children make good progress and are busily engaged in purposeful, well-planned activities that reflect their individual interests. They prepare children very well for the next stages in their learning.
- Children are happy and well behaved in this welcoming nursery. They form close bonds with staff, who are very caring and meet all children's needs. Children gain good levels of confidence and self-esteem and staff praise and encourage them. Staff help children to increase their independence, such as putting on and fastening their coats.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not provide rich and varied opportunities for children to extend their physical skills further, or to enhance their learning about the natural world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's outdoor experiences even further to extend their learning about the natural world and to provide further challenges in physical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and considered their views.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff use their secure knowledge to practise rigorous procedures that protect children's safety. They know how to report any concerns about a child's welfare, and they know how to respond to an allegation against themselves. The manager and provider work together to monitor children's progress and staff's practice in detail. This helps all staff to improve their knowledge and skills and ensures that any gaps in children's learning are identified and closed quickly. Staff have recently implemented new knowledge in planning different ways for children to use an exciting range of resources. This has resulted in improvements to children's language and creativity. Staff, children and parents all contribute to self-evaluation in the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's play very well at each activity they choose. They develop their language and vocabulary through meaningful conversations with children, for example, by using mathematical language as children play in the sand. Staff ask children which bucket is bigger or smaller, if it is full or half full, and which bucket is heavier or lighter. If children are unsure, staff show them practical demonstrations so that they can understand more easily. Staff make good use of opportunities to help children to count, such as when they count how many jumps they do, or how many feathers they stick on their Eid cards. They help children to touch objects as they count them, so they are accurate. Staff encourage children to think and challenge them well. For example, they ask what they may need to make toast and to pour tea in role-play situations. Staff add to or change planning according to their observations of children's interests.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy daily outdoor play and staff teach them about healthy lifestyles. They involve parents in this activity programme and invite them to workshops to learn more about how they can support children in making healthy choices. Staff help children to take turns, such as when they want to spend longer operating a sit-on toy digger. Children respond well when staff ask them to let other children have a go and to wait while each child jumps off the soft-play equipment. Children are emotionally secure in their moves to school and staff prepare them well for this transition.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic in their exploration of all the resources and activities available to them. They are confident to try new things, such as new activity and singing sessions and jumping off the soft-play equipment. Children learn to recognise and write letters and numbers. They identify sounds in their names and practise writing them. Children become engrossed in their play. For example, when they are curious to see where water comes out when they tip it into the top of a pipe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498983
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1054018
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	31
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Blue Elephant Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535222
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07877345992

Blue Elephant Nursery registered in 2016. The provider employs seven members of childcare staff, six of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The manager holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until midday and from 1pm until 4pm. Some children attend all day. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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