

Serendipity Nursery

The Kaleidoscope Children's Centre, 27 Riverview Court, Vange, Basildon, Essex,
SS16 4NF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

21 June 2018

19 August 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The knowledgeable manager demonstrates strong organisational and leadership skills. She works well with her deputy and staff team. The strong and dedicated staff team shares the manager's vision to provide good-quality care.
- The qualified staff clearly know their key children very well. They use their observations and assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress. Staff carefully plan and provide a good range of activities based on children's individual interests and needs.
- Babies and children develop strong emotional attachments with their key person. They are happy and settled and demonstrate emotional security and self-esteem. Care practices are highly effective and contribute to children's good health and well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and others are strong. Staff routinely inform parents about their children's progress at the nursery. Parents appreciate the information they receive about their children's development and progress in learning.
- Self-evaluation is effective and leads to clear action plans for ongoing improvements. The manager takes account of the views of children, staff and parents to plan further developments for the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently make the best of opportunities to encourage children to think for themselves and to enhance their language for speaking.
- Performance management of staff is not rigorous enough to help raise staff teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to think for themselves and acquire the widest possible vocabulary at an early age
- strengthen performance management to provide staff with focused support and training to help them improve the quality of their teaching practice to the highest possible level.

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 deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. 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 took account of their views.

Inspector
Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team and staff fully understand their roles in the reporting procedures and how to protect children from harm and neglect. The manager has rigorous recruitment and induction procedures in place to ensure staff are suitable for their role and understand their responsibilities from the start. Staff are vigilant about children's safety. They undertake regular checks of the environment to ensure it remains a safe place for children to play and explore. Staff attend relevant training and consider how they can use the knowledge gained to improve further. Furthermore, they have regular one-to-one meetings that help them reflect on their role in the nursery. Additional funding is thoughtfully used to support children's individual interests and needs. For example, role-play resources and dressing-up clothes have been purchased to help children nurture their imaginary play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff help children to be ready for school. Children quickly learn to take turns and listen carefully to one another during group 'circle' times. Staff provide good opportunities for babies to enjoy a range of sensory experiences. For example, they explore a water mat lying on their tummy and look at objects in the light box. The nursery environment reflects the diverse backgrounds of the children and the wider community. Children learn to respect and celebrate each other's differences. They dress up in saris, look at books about cultural festivals and complete jigsaws that reflect people and communities beyond their own.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children benefit from being physical active and enjoy spending time outdoors playing in the fresh air daily. Toddlers especially enjoy climbing, sliding and practising 'hula-hooping'. Children's behaviour is good. Staff act as good role models and praise children on their achievements, which helps to raise their sense of self-esteem and their confidence. Staff have created a stimulating, well-organised and well-resourced environment indoors and outdoors. This provides children with good opportunities to lead their own play and learning. The nursery is full of happy and inquisitive children, keen to play and explore and motivated to learn.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those in receipt of funding and children who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points in learning. They enthusiastically join in with number rhymes and songs, counting how many 'buns' are left. Children demonstrate their proficiency in the use of technology, such as playing with child-friendly power tools. Children have access to a good range of books in the nursery. They enthusiastically recall and act out popular stories as they go on a 'bear hunt' in the outdoor play area. Children are well prepared to embark on the journey through to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469364
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1105590
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	104
Name of registered person	Serendipity Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531425
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2014
Telephone number	01268559633

Serendipity Nursery registered in 2014. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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