

# Caterpillars Day Nursery

The Square, Carshalton, SM5 3BN



<b>Inspection date</b>	28 June 2018
Previous inspection date	16 June 2016

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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

- Recent changes in the daily management of the nursery are positive. The new acting manager is effective in her role. She follows robust recruitment procedures and provides existing staff with encouragement and support.
- Babies and toddlers play alongside each other, and older children develop good play skills, negotiating with other children. Staff make good use of individual children's observations and help them to make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff follow children's interests well. For example, children enjoy putting on doctors' outfits and engage in role play where they apply bandages to make people feel better.
- Children benefit from nutritious meals and snacks. A recent change in menu introduces children to different taste experiences, such as Moroccan lamb and couscous.
- The nursery is welcoming and inclusive. Staff work sensitively with children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They utilise strong partnerships with outside agencies to accurately plan activities and ensure learning targets are met.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently plan activities outdoors for babies to enhance their learning experiences further.
- Although staff provide daily verbal feedback to parents, opportunities to provide them with further information and guidance for supporting their children's next steps in learning are not consistently promoted with maximum effect.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for babies to experience outdoor learning
- explore additional ways of providing parents with information and guidance for supporting the children's next steps in learning.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the setting and observed staff ratios and the staff interacting with the children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the acting manager and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to children, parents and staff and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the acting manager. She looked at records and documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff.

### Inspector

Gillian Cubitt

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The nursery's systems, such as closed-circuit television and a receptionist, monitor children's safety. Recent training for all staff ensures that they know how to identify the signs that a child may be at risk. Staff are fully aware of the actions they need to take should they have a concern. The manager constantly checks and maintains staff-to-child ratios, and staff closely supervise children. The manager has good support from the owners of the nursery. Together with her team they have a good awareness of how to make improvements. They have undertaken a planned programme of training sessions in key skills, for example, managing children's behaviour and staff teaching skills, which has had a positive impact on children's learning. The manager and staff work closely with other early years professionals and local schools. This helps to provide consistency for children's care needs and aids their move to school.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They play alongside younger children and offer a commentary on what they are doing to extend their play. Older children have more focused instruction and guidance appropriate with their level of learning. For example, babies and toddlers feel ice, make sounds and learn words, such as 'hot' and 'cold'. Older children learn about wild animals, and staff encourage them to reproduce these creatively in their individual way. Children competently use a range of resources, such as scissors, glue, sponges and shredded paper, to make their creations.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good settling-in procedures help children and babies to feel at ease. This is helped by the effective information gathered from parents about children's care needs and capabilities before they start. Staff give babies cuddles and follow their routines effectively. Staff manage children's behaviour well. For example, staff make good use of the dance studio. Older and more active children use their energy and develop their physical skills with activities, such as hopping and stretching to music. All children help to tidy away toys and some take additional responsibilities, such as helping to prepare tables for lunch. All children follow good hygiene routines that support their health.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated to learn. They develop good social skills and are keen to join in, play and interact with staff and other children. Babies develop curiosity and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities overcome initial difficulties. Children learn the basics of counting and number recognition. Older children immerse themselves in pretend play and thoroughly enjoy stories that staff read well. Children recognise letters and the sounds they represent during their last year at nursery, in preparation for their next steps when they go to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY474449
<b>Local authority</b>	Sutton
<b>Inspection number</b>	1139809
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	130
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	199
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Caterpillars Day Nursery Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP533429
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 June 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	02087733882

Caterpillars Day Nursery registered in 2014 and is situated in Carshalton. The nursery opens each weekday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round, and offers a variety of sessions. This includes an after-school club for children who attend before and after school during term time. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It employs 22 members of staff plus three staff for the after-school club and additional bank staff. Of these, 17 hold relevant childcare qualifications and the manager holds a level 6 qualification in childcare and education.

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