

Children 1st @ Leicester

Tarragon Road, Leicester, LE2 7ET



Inspection date	5 July 2018
Previous inspection date	2 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The leadership and management team strives to provide the highest quality childcare and is extremely focused on making improvements to all aspects of the provision. The views and ideas of parents and children are included in innovative ways such as the 'children's council'.
- The manager and staff create a highly stimulating learning environment, indoors and outside. They use their expert knowledge of child development to provide for the needs of different age groups. For example, babies flourish as they freely choose and explore independently.
- Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning, whether to a new group within nursery or their move on to school. Staff take time to build children's confidence and self-esteem and to introduce them to changes in routines.
- Staff provide a wealth of opportunities for children to learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children learn how their efforts to fundraise can help others. They are proud of their achievements and celebrate successes such as appearing in a fundraising bhangra dance on local television.
- Staff develop exceptionally strong partnerships with parents. When children start, staff spend time with parents to learn in detail about children's interests, routines and what they know and can do. Parents are encouraged to spend time in the nursery and make use of the wealth of activities and ideas to help them further support their children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even more ways that older children can use their own ideas when linking letters with their sounds in writing activities.

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 members of the nursery's management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jane Millward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff receive comprehensive training and regular updates to help them to keep children safe. The manager has given considerable thought to maintaining highly effective safety systems and high levels of vigilance in the nursery. Staff receive excellent support for their professional development and the manager is highly effective in monitoring their performance. There is a strong commitment to providing high-quality childcare training for apprentices. The manager has established robust systems which enable her to promptly respond to any emerging gaps in individual and/or groups of children's learning and development. The manager and staff work very closely with other professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff skilfully observe and assess children's learning and use this information to plan challenging next steps. Staff place a strong focus on activities that promote collaborative play, exploration and experimentation. At all ages, children enjoy inspirational learning opportunities. Babies are fascinated by mirrors and lights that encourage them to travel around the room. Older children create language-rich role-play scenarios and use their knowledge of money to 'shop'. Staff provide excellent support to develop children's language and communication skills. They take time to listen and encourage children to ask questions. Occasionally, staff do not adapt their teaching as promptly to enable older children to follow their own ideas when practising their early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have an exceptionally strong voice within the nursery. They learn that their views and ideas, such as comments about the 'book of the week', are important and are shared in newsletters and on displays. There are excellent opportunities for children to be physically active and to learn more about developing their strength and fitness. Young children enjoy taking part in active rhymes and songs. They giggle as they march around and confidently invite visitors to join the fun. Staff place an extremely strong emphasis on helping children to learn more about healthy food choices. They offer freshly cooked nutritious meals and invite the children to tell 'Mr Harvey, the healthy bear' about the different ingredients in their meals.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress in their learning and development. Children concentrate for significant periods of time to complete tasks to a high standard. For example, independent artwork is extremely detailed with excellent colour and form. Older children enjoy using their knowledge of how sounds link to letters to write simple words in their 'busy books'. They recognise and write numbers to 100 as they measure their 'play bus'. Children have very high self-esteem. They follow their own interests during play and learn to solve problems. Children's behaviour is exemplary. Babies and younger children happily take turns and share their toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315827
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	1102034
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	149
Name of registered person	Breedon House Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900832
Date of previous inspection	2 April 2014
Telephone number	01162554666

Children 1st @ Leicester registered in 2005. The nursery employs 26 members of childcare staff, of whom 20 have appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, except on bank holidays and for a week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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