

Sunflower Day Nursery

Broadley Road, Harlow, Essex, CM19 5RD



Inspection date

6 July 2018

Previous inspection date

4 November 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

- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to promote learning and support the welfare and development of young children.
- Monitoring ensures that individual children or groups of children who have identified needs are targeted and supported effectively. Children make good progress.
- Staff encourage parents to support their children's learning at home. They also share information about their children's achievements with their appointed key person.
- Relationships between staff provide a good role model for children. This helps them to learn about acceptable behaviour and how to treat others with respect.
- Self-evaluation includes the views of parents, staff and children. Actions taken by the manager and staff are helping to improve the quality of provision. The manager sets a clear direction for the setting's future development.
- Children learn about leading healthy lifestyles. They plant and grow fresh vegetables and herbs and enjoy plenty of outdoor learning opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff in the nursery unit do not currently make the most effective use of activities that help children prepare for their move to school.
- Staff in the pre-school do not consistently promote activities that help children value their peers and gain an understanding of other communities in the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance learning opportunities for older children to help them to prepare confidently for their transition on to school
- enrich opportunities for children to develop their awareness of positive differences in their community and the wider world.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector discussed with the manager how she reflects on practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through feedback discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There are robust recruitment and vetting measures in place. This ensures that any new and existing staff are checked to determine their suitability to work with children. The management team and staff have a good understanding of what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare and they regularly refresh their knowledge of safeguarding procedures. Staff access training and the manager implements regular supervisory meetings on staff's practice. Recent training has seen improvements in the way staff promote children's communication and language skills. The manager is strongly supported by qualified and enthusiastic staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use a wide range of methods to help children learn. Children make good progress from their individual starting points. They are enthusiastic and enjoy the wide range of activities available. Children are eager and confident to play indoors and outdoors. Staff develop effective partnerships with other professionals to support children's differing needs. Older children make mud 'cakes' and 'food' in the mud kitchen and build with large blocks to walk across. Babies enjoy the sensory experience of pushing paint around a table top with the palm of their hands. Children's physical skills are promoted effectively. Staff ask the older children to share their knowledge and they explore simple phonics, singing songs and re-telling rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well and quickly become engrossed in their chosen play. They benefit from the calm and nurturing environment and the attentive interaction of their key person. Children develop trusting relationships with staff and their physical and emotional well-being are supported. Older children are able to manage their personal care needs well. Partnerships with parents are positive. Parents report how happy they are with the care and education their children receive. Children behave well. They share toys well, are confident to manage their emotions, and play cooperatively. Children are prompted to consider risks in the environment, which helps them to develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding and those who speak English as an additional language, make good or at least typical progress from the start to support the next stage of their learning. Children are enthusiastic learners. For example, they join in with stories and recall familiar events, which helps to inspire their literacy development. Their understanding of numbers is good and they recognise numerals. Babies are motivated to explore both the indoor and outdoor environments.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY420513
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1105216
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Great Parndon Community Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP910034
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2014
Telephone number	01279 430436

Sunflower Day Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. All staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who has early years professional status. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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