

# The Sandcastle Nursery

The Sandcastle Nursery, Lane End Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP12 4JF



## Inspection date

9 July 2018

Previous inspection date

11 August 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	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

- Managers are inspirational and show an exceptional commitment to achieving the highest possible standards. They develop highly effective improvement plans that consistently enhance outcomes for children. For example, the recent development of the outdoor area provides children with even more inspirational play opportunities.
- Partnerships with parents, other settings that children attend and local schools are outstanding. Parents know precisely what their children are learning. They comment staff constantly share detailed information and suggest targeted activities to support children's learning at home.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Older children learn to manage their own disputes, listen to their friends and work as team. Younger children show amazing manners for their age and are keen to paint pictures for visitors.
- Children develop an extremely strong sense of belonging and secure emotional attachments with staff. Parents comment that staff show an outstanding commitment in getting to know their children and treat each child with high levels of respect.
- Staff use assessments of children's progress highly effectively to plan challenging and inspirational activities that meet the individual learning needs of each child. All children, including those with English as an additional language make excellent progress right from the start.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor staff practice to maintain and strengthen the excellent teaching.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, managers, children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at various documents, including policies and procedures, risk assessments, staff training records, records for children and evidence of the suitability of staff.

### Inspector

Jane Franks

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff supervise children vigilantly across the various play areas within the nursery. They demonstrate an expert understanding of their role in keeping children safe and secure. Recruitment and vetting are extremely robust and high levels of safeguarding training ensure staffs' knowledge of child protection is comprehensive. The inspiring leadership team have established exemplary ways of monitoring children's progress. They use this information to focus staff training precisely. For example, they have developed and run a mathematical programme across the nursery to enhance staffs' knowledge even further. This ensures staff are in the best position to close swiftly any emerging gaps in learning. The manager recognises the need to continually monitor teaching to maintain the excellent practice.

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

Staffs' commitment to meeting the specific needs of each child produces exceptional outcomes. Staff are extremely flexible and consistently adapt activities to follow children's spontaneous ideas. For example, pre-school children demonstrate incredible problem-solving skills. They work as a team to build a water construction, discovering how to connect various pipes and u-bends to ensure water flows. Toddlers focus intently transporting bark into weighing buckets. They use complex language such as 'more than' and 'less than,' and experiment with weight and measure. Babies show high levels of curiosity, such as hunting for treasure. They show an excellent understanding of volume for their young age, for example, they transport balls into buckets and know when these are full or half full.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff promote children's health and well-being superbly. For example, children of all ages have a wonderful time planting and harvesting their fruit and vegetables in the nursery allotment. Children have an exceptional range of opportunities to learn about themselves and others. They visit the local retirement home and spend quality time engaging in activities with the elderly. Staff embrace the different backgrounds of families, for example, children inform visitors that they thoroughly enjoyed recent Bollywood dancing at the nursery.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children develop incredible independence in their self-care and make choices about their play. They are highly motivated and confidently perform their show in front of visitors. Older children record ingredients for their mud pies and know how to write letters of their name. Younger children develop extremely good social skills. Children leave for school with a remarkable range of skills that help to support their future learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY427490
<b>Local authority</b>	Buckinghamshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1131314
<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
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	80
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	145
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sandcastle Nursery Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902314
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 August 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01494 474848

The Sandcastle Nursery registered in 2011. It is located in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. The nursery operates from Monday to Friday throughout the year, with the exception of 1 week at Christmas and bank holidays. It is open from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 32 members of staff, who work directly with the children. Of these, 30 hold relevant childcare qualifications between level 2 and level 6, including two members of staff who hold Early Years Professional Status.

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