

Banana Moon Colchester

Oyster Court, St. Helens Lane, Colchester, Essex, CO1 1TY



Inspection date

5 July 2018

Previous inspection date

26 April 2017

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

- Children's health and physical development are fostered well. For example, a sensory room provides additional sensory experiences to the good ones provided in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's progress. Parents appreciate the warm and welcoming environment the staff provide.
- Support for children who speak English as an additional language is good. The staff learn words in children's home languages and then repeat their words in English to help them understand. This encourages children to feel secure and settled in the nursery.
- Children are independent learners. The well-resourced environment is attractive and inviting to children. This enables children to make decisions about how and where they play.
- Staff encourage children to share and take turns, and this helps them develop good personal and social skills. They also learn to share and take their turn. The staff team use praise well to help children recognise their strengths, and support them to overcome difficulties.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff's professional development is not sharply focused on consistently raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- Self-evaluation is not used as well as possible to assess the impact of changes to practice and outcomes to children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen procedures for staff's professional development to further raise the quality of teaching and promote high levels of children's achievement
- strengthen the self-evaluation process and assess the impact of practice more precisely on outcomes for children.

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

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have attended safeguarding training. They have a clear understanding of child protection procedures and know how to report any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child. Recruitment and induction procedures are robust. Policies and procedures, including those for administering medication, are in place, understood and effectively implemented. Most of the staff team hold a paediatric first-aid qualification. This helps to support children's well-being in the event of an accident. Staff identify and address hazards through risk assessment. For example, the biometric system helps to ensure the safe arrival and departure of children. Partnerships with other professionals are effective. Staff work closely with others to ensure children who are not meeting their expected milestones are fully supported.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe children at play and complete assessments of their learning and development. They use their findings to build on children's current skills and help them make progress in their learning. This is an effective balance of planned activities and opportunities for children to lead their own learning. Staff pay attention to how babies engage in activities and talk to them, encouraging them to explore and discover new things. Staff support children's communication and language development. For example, they model new words and ask questions that encourage children to talk about their experiences as they play. Staff successfully support children's understanding of mathematics through a range of daily activities and routines.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies and children form strong bonds with staff. Children and their parents get to know their key person well. This helps children to grow in confidence and feel secure. Children learn to understand the needs of others through, for example, their role play, games and listening to stories. Staff plan settling-in and transition routines for children, in consultation with the parents which help to foster children's emotional well-being. Staff promote healthy eating. For example, snacks and meals are freshly prepared, nutritious and balanced. A sensory room provides additional sensory experiences to the good ones provided in the indoor and outdoor play areas.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good relationships with others and play cooperatively together. They use their imaginations well. During a role-play activity, they pretend to go to the shops. They invite others into the game and share the play food. All children, including children in receipt of additional funding, make good progress in relation to their skills and capabilities on entry. They are well prepared for the next stage of their education, including the eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496549
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1140008
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	106
Number of children on roll	105
Name of registered person	Go Leisure Colchester Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901345
Date of previous inspection	26 April 2017
Telephone number	01206549946

Banana Moon Colchester registered in 2016. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds a degree in childcare, 14 are qualified at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery also employs a chef. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm.

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