

Raffles Nursery & Pre-School



Andrews Lane, Cheshunt, WALTHAM CROSS, Hertfordshire EN7 6TB

Inspection date	22 August 2018
Previous inspection date	21 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children establish very strong relationships with their key person. Children know who to turn to when they need support or comfort, and staff have a good knowledge of individual children's personal preferences.
- Behaviour in the nursery is good. Staff act as positive role models for all children. Children quickly gain the skills they need to interact with each other. For example, they learn how to share and ask other children for what they want politely.
- Children who need additional support are quickly identified, including those children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. The nursery staff provide children with effective additional support to enable them to close the gaps in their learning rapidly.
- Staff work extremely closely together. Their effective communication skills ensure that all children are well cared for and have their needs met quickly.
- Children demonstrate a strong ability to use their imaginations well at the nursery. Staff ask the children a wide range of questions to encourage them to think about what they are doing as they play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always fully benefit from their learning experiences in the indoor learning environment as it does not consistently provide them with enough stimulation.
- Although staff are well supported through regular supervision and performance management meetings, they do not always have sufficient opportunities to develop the quality of teaching to a higher standard through their professional development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the indoor learning environment so that children are consistently motivated and stimulated as they learn
- maximise the opportunities for staff to build on their professional knowledge and raise the quality of teaching to an excellent standard.

Inspection activities

- The manager gave the inspector a tour of the nursery, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took their opinions into consideration.
- The inspector and manager conducted a joint observation of a planned activity and considered the impact of the teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and assistant manager, and looked at a range of documentation including nursery policies and staff suitability.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at suitable points during the inspection.

Inspector

Jennifer Hardy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure understanding of how to keep children safe in the nursery and know the processes for reporting any concerns they have. The manager works hard to improve the nursery and takes on board comments and suggestions made by staff and parents. Staff work confidently in partnership with other professionals and agencies to support children's development. Parents feel well informed about their child's progress and are happy with the care the staff provide.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff skilfully help children to develop their communication skills, such as when they are retelling the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' in the outdoor reading area. Children remain focused as they join in with the activities they choose. They confidently use a range of technology, including a remote-control insect robot. Staff extend children's learning further. For example, they encourage children to programme the robot to move five steps after they successfully make it move one step. Children go on nature walks in the grounds around the nursery, which helps them to develop their understanding of the world around them. Children learn about other cultures and special festivals through the activities provided and visitors to the nursery.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide the children with a calm and welcoming atmosphere. Children are well cared for and staff sympathetically support children with their individual care needs. Children across the nursery are encouraged to be independent. For instance, toddlers in the baby room know to line up and wash their hands before lunch. Older children use a knife safely to cut a banana for snack. Staff constantly praise the children for their achievements. Staff remind children of the rules and gently encourage them to help around the nursery, such as when it is time to tidy the toys away.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress at the nursery, including children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. They are well equipped with the skills that they need to move on to the next stage in their learning. Children are motivated to learn and independently choose from the wide range of activities on offer. They work collaboratively, such as when they use large wooden blocks to build a bridge. They move water from the water tray outside to drain pipes and eagerly try to catch it before it falls to the ground. This helps them to develop their problem-solving skills. Older children develop their early writing skills indoors and outdoors, such as when they practise writing their names on the work they produce. Younger children enjoy moving to sounds and excitedly join in with the actions to familiar songs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346535
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10063584
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	127
Name of registered person	Rafles Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP526726
Date of previous inspection	21 August 2015
Telephone number	01992 640110.

Rafles Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2007. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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