

Saplings (Childrens) Day Nursery Ltd

Cadland Childrens Centre, Whitefield Road, Holbury, SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 2HW



Inspection date	11 September 2018
Previous inspection date	17 December 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The managers listen carefully to the views of children, parents, staff and their wide network of professional bodies. They make thorough evaluations of the nursery and use these to significantly improve the environment, coach their staff and raise outcomes for children.
- Staff inspire children of all ages with activities and opportunities for adventures that capture their imaginations, hold their attention and help them to share their experiences together. For example, toddlers delight in handling, smelling, tasting and talking about different types of fruit. They learn to cut them safely and share them with their friends.
- Highly nurturing staff quickly develop secure, trusting and warm relationships with children. They are highly responsive to children's individual needs. Children quickly settle into the nursery and into new rooms. They develop excellent levels of confidence, independence and emotional well-being that prepare them exceptionally well for school.
- Outcomes for children are very good. Children quickly engage in new opportunities for learning and take pride in their achievements. They learn good manners and take increasing levels of responsibility for their belongings and personal hygiene.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not take full advantage of the opportunities children create to help them think for themselves, solve problems or review how well an approach worked.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- challenge children to think more about what they are doing to help them identify and find ways to solve problems and make improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed, listened to and talked with children as they played indoors and during outdoor play.
- The inspector talked with parents and listened to their views about the nursery and their children's progress.
- The inspector looked at children's records and discussed staff's planning and evaluation of activities, and how they exchange information with parents.
- The inspector reviewed records and procedures relating to safeguarding and risk assessment, and discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's welfare with the managers.
- The inspector observed care routines and completed a joint observation with one of the managers. Together they discussed how staff training has contributed to children's learning and development.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The co-managers are highly experienced and go to exceptional lengths to develop good partnerships with parents and raise outcomes for local children. Parents and staff are quick to share examples of how the managers' support, guidance and persistence have helped to rapidly improve their children's lives. This includes children who have special educational needs and disabilities, and children who speak English as an additional language. Superb partnerships with local schools and services help to secure additional support where it is needed. Safeguarding is effective. The managers check that staff have a thorough understanding of their responsibility to protect children from harm. Staff know how to act appropriately should they have any concerns about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The managers and other senior staff use their knowledge from their degrees in early years education well. They are highly skilled at nurturing the very strong staff team to even higher levels of practice. For example, staff make accurate assessment of children's achievements and identified low levels of speech skills. Managers successfully targeted training to improve staff practice in teaching children to listen more carefully. Precise monitoring now clearly shows improvements in speech and language development for children across the age groups. Staff create many exciting opportunities and areas inside and outside where children willingly experiment with different tools and writing materials. Children are confident to express their own ideas and follow their own interests.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the care of staff who provide security, encouragement and plenty of motivation to explore new challenges. For example, children who prefer to be active outdoors enjoy excellent opportunities to do so in the inspiring garden play areas. Children become highly practised at experimenting with different properties, such as water runs, construction materials and planting techniques. Staff diligently teach children of all ages to assess risks, follow safety rules and resolve any conflicts of interests with their friends. Staff work exceptionally well with colleagues in the adjacent Reception class. Children see school in action, know what to expect and are keen to join in.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good levels of progress and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. For example, children with slower starts in developing social skills, speech or self-confidence quickly progress and catch up with their age group. Children learn to respect and take care of their friends and the environment in which they play. They can work together on creative projects and when tidying away at the end of the day. Children develop a strong sense of belonging to their nursery and the community.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432713
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10063256
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	42
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Saplings (Childrens Day) Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP530924
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2015
Telephone number	0238 0892351

Saplings (Childrens) Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2004 and is run by a voluntary committee. It operates from Cadland Children's Centre in Southampton, Hampshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5pm, during term times. It also operates an after-school club. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 15 staff, 13 of whom are qualified in early years at level 3 to level 6. Three members of staff hold early years teacher status.

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