

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Stevenage Great Ashby



White Horse Lane, Great Ashby Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 6NH

Inspection date	28 September 2018
Previous inspection date	3 March 2016

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

- Staff use children's interests well to plan motivating activities for them. They support children effectively to reach the next stages in their learning.
- The manager ensures that staff are offered a wide range of relevant training and regular supervision opportunities to help ensure they meet the needs of the children effectively.
- Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning. The manager supports this process well. For instance, she monitors children's progress overall and identifies gaps in learning so that all children make good progress from their initial starting points.
- Children's behaviour in the nursery is good. Staff act as positive role models to support children to develop their understanding of sharing and turn taking effectively.
- The staff work well together. They have strong communication skills. These support them to work with one another to ensure that children make the progress expected in their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On rare occasions, some babies briefly appear unsure of whom to turn to if they need support.
- At times, staff do not allow children enough time to think about the questions they ask before they expect a response.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the good opportunities that babies have to form strong relationships with their key person when they start
- ensure that children are offered enough time to think about questions being asked before a response is expected.

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the setting by the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector and the manager observed a planned activity and discussed the impact of the teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at a range of documentation, including staff qualifications, policies and children's learning records.

Inspector

Jennifer Hardy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a strong understanding of the processes to follow if they have any welfare concerns regarding children in their care. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's progress and what they can do to support their children's learning at home. Staff work with parents closely to identify what children can do when they first start at the nursery. The manager ensures that any additional funding that is received is used effectively to support children. She works closely with other professionals, such as school teachers, and shares relevant information to support children's well-being. She reflects on how the nursery can improve further and takes on board feedback and suggestions.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff team supports children's learning well across the nursery. Children are motivated to learn and choose independently from the variety of resources on offer. Staff build a sense of anticipation for babies as they play. For instance, as they say 'ready, steady, go', babies respond with excitement. Staff talk to children about the towers they build out of interlocking blocks. They use appropriate mathematical language, such as 'taller' and 'smaller', as they talk to the children. This supports children to develop their vocabulary further. Staff support children to explore and take risks safely, such as when they start to climb up steps on the slide.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Toddlers develop their independence at the nursery, such as when they drink from cups without lids during snack time. Staff support children sensitively with their personal care needs. Children gain a good understanding of the local community. For example, they go on outings to the nearby shop to buy ingredients for baking. Staff ensure that children with allergies are kept safe. For instance, their food is plated separately and checked carefully before it is served. Children in the pre-school room have their voices and opinions valued. They take part in meetings about upcoming celebrations and make decisions together, such as choosing food for a graduation party. Children dance enthusiastically to the music during the daily 'wake and shake' session, which helps them to understand the effects that physical exercise has on their bodies.

Outcomes for children are good

Babies practise their early walking skills and develop the ability to negotiate around objects as they move. Children use their imaginations as they play. They enjoy dressing up and pretending to cook in the role-play kitchen. Children develop their larger muscles, such as when they play with bats and balls in the garden. They develop an understanding of how plants grow and where mini-beasts live. Pre-school children practise their early writing skills. For example, they draw pictures of houses and write the word 'house' next to their picture.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY239818
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10063687
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	112
Number of children on roll	123
Name of registered person	Just Learning Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900810
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2016
Telephone number	01438 365692

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Stevenage Great Ashby registered in 2009 and is part of a national chain. The nursery employs 32 members of staff. Of these, 20 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one member of staff who has qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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