

Serendipity Nursery II

The Basildon Upper Academy, Wickford Avenue, Basildon SS13 3HL



Inspection date	2 October 2018
Previous inspection date	10 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- Babies and children make exceptional progress in their learning, given their starting points. Staff have extremely high expectations of what children can achieve. They plan exceedingly challenging activities that build successfully on children's achievements and abilities.
- Staff closely observe children's progress and assess their learning needs accurately. Children who take longer to reach their milestones are gently encouraged and supported and any gaps in their learning close quickly. Staff work extremely successfully in close partnership with other professionals involved in children's care to promote their continued progress.
- Staff build extremely strong partnerships with parents and support them to be fully involved in their children's development and learning. Staff provide parents with books and resources to enable them to support their children's learning at home.
- Babies and children form especially close attachments to their familiar staff. This helps them to gain a sense of well-being and security in the setting. Staff are exceptionally kind and patient. They guide young children gently towards positive behaviour. They set simple yet consistent boundaries that children understand and accept.
- Staff work exceptionally well together as a team. Managers and staff observe each other's practice frequently, share helpful suggestions and discuss any areas for improvement.
- Self-evaluation is encouraged throughout the nursery. Staff produce action plans in their rooms and evaluate the activities they provide. Staff seek the views of parents on the service they provide and parents say the care their children receive is superb.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue with the excellent plans to enhance the outdoor area and provide more opportunities for children to learn about nature and how things grow and change.

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 carried out joint observations with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the suitability and qualifications of staff, children's records and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The extremely hard working staff are dedicated to children's care and learning. Management's extensive attention to detail means that all records are meticulously kept and staff receive the utmost support and supervision. Recruitment procedures are robust and new staff receive excellent guidance and mentoring. Managers provide extensive opportunities for staff to develop their professional skills through qualifications and an excellent continuous training programme. Extremely thorough and extensive analysis of the progress of groups of children ensure that all children receive the support they need to achieve to the best of their ability. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely confident in their knowledge of safeguarding procedures and how to protect the children in their care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff focus strongly on developing children's communication and language skills. Children who speak English as an additional language make excellent progress. Staff obtain words and phrases in children's home languages from their parents. They use sign language to help children to settle and increase their understanding. Staff build on what children already know and use their interests to increase motivation. They plan challenging activities to enhance children's development and provide an engaging and fun learning environment for them. For example, staff and children engage in a very lively song about letters and sounds. Children focus and concentrate well on the tasks set for them by staff. They answer questions written on sensory light boards, such as finding out which shape is bigger or smaller, or which shape is a square and which is a circle.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are exceptionally warm and caring. Babies and children thrive in their tender loving care. Staff are meticulous in the care of babies and ensure they follow their home routines. Babies and children learn to be independent from an early age. They feed themselves and as they grow older they serve their own food. Staff encourage older children to do things for themselves, such as washing up their dinner plates. Children thoroughly enjoy learning these skills for the future. Staff ensure that children receive a healthy balanced diet and they talk about foods that are good for their health. Children enjoy plenty of physical activities outdoors. Staff have ambitious plans to continue with their refurbishment of the garden to give children more opportunities to explore nature and find out more about plants and other living things.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Babies gain confidence in standing and walking and develop their physical skills safely in a caring environment. Babies and older children enjoy looking at books and listening to stories. They eagerly turn the pages and see that written words have a meaning. Older children learn exceptional skills that help them to be ready for school. For example, they begin to recognise numbers as they sort them and they form the letters in their names. Children learn about people who are different from themselves. They help each other and are kind and thoughtful. Children are happy to share and wait patiently for their turn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469370
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10068883
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	60
Number of children on roll	115
Name of registered person	Serendipity Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531425
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2014
Telephone number	01268 498745

Serendipity Nursery II registered in 2013. It is one of three settings privately owned. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7am until 7pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 15 members of staff, 13 of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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