

Aardvark Preschool & Nursery

Church Road, Romford RM3 0SH



Inspection date	5 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The manager implements effective self-evaluation processes and reflects well on the setting's practice. She seeks the views of others, such as the local authority, and acts on any advice to help improve children's outcomes.
- Children benefit from staff's effective partnership with parents. Staff gather useful information from parents about what children can do when they begin attending to help plan for children's individual needs from the outset. Parents are kept well informed of children's ongoing development and are involved well in supporting them at home.
- Staff are friendly and form warm, caring relationships with children and support their emotional needs well. Children are happy, confident and independent.
- Children make good progress and develop the skills needed for the next stages in their learning. They have interesting opportunities to develop their creative thinking and physical skills. For instance, they enjoy participating in painting activities and think of their own ideas to create pictures. Children learn to use tools with good control.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities to encourage younger children to join in with different sensory activities to help enhance their exploration and aid their development.
- Staff miss opportunities during activities to provide challenge that precisely matches children's individual needs to help extend their learning experiences even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities for younger children to explore sensory activities to enhance their learning experiences further
- strengthen staff's teaching during activities to help refine children's learning experiences and offer more precise challenges that match their individual development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they engaged together in activities.
- The inspector and the manager undertook a joint observation of a teaching activity.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff during the inspection about children's care and the activities provided for them.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents and carers spoken to on the day and engaged with children at appropriate times.
- The inspector viewed documentation during the inspection, such as the setting's policies and procedures, and children's assessment folders.

Inspector

Anneka Qayyum

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager monitors staff's performance well and reflects on the quality of their practice effectively to help maintain good teaching levels. She recognises the setting's strengths and identifies areas of weakness to help her improve children's outcomes. Staff have good opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills. For instance, they visit other settings to observe practice, gather ideas and develop their teaching expertise. Safeguarding is effective. The manager understands her responsibility to protect children and implements effective policies and procedures to ensure their welfare. Staff know how to recognise and report any signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children play in an exciting, stimulating, welcoming environment. They concentrate well while they play and are keen to be involved. Children have good opportunities to develop their early reading skills, such as during group story time. They enjoy using storybook language, help to tell the story and learn about how stories are structured. Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop their speech. For instance, they sing rhymes with children and support their ability use words in context and speak in sentences. Staff check on children's ongoing development effectively and know their key children well. They make regular observations of children's abilities and, overall, plan suitably challenging activities to support their good development. Staff support children as they play, generally, well. For instance, staff demonstrate how to use resources and how toys work to help children learn to use them independently.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have good opportunities to learn about diversity, such as when exploring activities that reflect each other's backgrounds. Children learn to value each other's differences and develop their understanding of different people in the community. Children behave well. Staff teach children about what their expectations are and help them to learn what acceptable behaviour is. Children eat nutritious foods, are active and enjoy using equipment. For example, younger children use the climbing equipment and slide and older children have access to the neighbouring school's playground to help them develop their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills needed for the next steps in their learning and starting school. For example, children communicate confidently, speak clearly and listen to others well. Older children learn to write their name and begin to hear the initial sounds in words. Toddlers learn to walk confidently and enjoy babbling and begin to use words to express themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536763
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	10067419
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Aardvark Childcare Services Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP536762
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01708371258

Aardvark Preschool & Nursery registered in 2016. It is situated in Romford, in the London Borough of Havering. The setting operates from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, 51 weeks per year. The setting receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are nine staff in total. One member of staff holds an early years qualification at level 4 and six have a qualification at level 3. The manager holds qualified teacher status.

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