

Squirrels Day Nursery

Nelson Primary School, Nelson Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 7BU



Inspection date	9 October 2018
Previous inspection date	30 September 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

- The new manager, who has only been in position for a month, has already taken steps to identify areas she would like to develop. She has worked closely with the committee and staff to implement changes to further improve practice in the nursery.
- Parents are recognised as important partners in the nursery. Staff are eager to continue to develop these links, as well as the partnerships they have with other professionals that support children and their families. This helps to raise the consistency of care and support for children.
- Children enjoy a wide range of activities. They develop their confidence and gain high levels of independence as they make choices in their play and learning.
- Staff quickly identify children's starting points in learning and plan relevant activities to support them. Children are often well engaged and receive good levels of support from staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems used to monitor children's progress do not always give enough consideration to how the most able children can be further challenged.
- There are limited opportunities for children to recognise familiar words and other types of print, and to develop their interest in books.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the current systems for monitoring children's progress and give more consideration to how additional challenge can be offered to all children
- explore further ways of supporting children, including those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, to develop their literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed learning activities and care routines.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, committee representatives and staff at convenient times during the inspection. She also interacted with the children where appropriate.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of records and documentation.
- The inspector spoke to two parents to consider their views. She also reviewed a sample of parental written feedback.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Amanda May

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. They carefully assess the risks within the environment and understand the importance of monitoring any accidents and injuries. Staff can recognise the signs of abuse and understand the procedures they must follow in regards to this. There are effective systems to monitor the quality of practice, including teaching. The manager provides support and coaching to all staff, such as by completing peer observations. The staff team are well qualified and understand how children learn. The committee support the manager very well and they work closely to identify and address areas to develop. Parents are fully involved in all aspects of the setting. They receive regular updates about their child's learning and activities they have taken part in. This helps them to support their children's learning at home. Links with other professionals working with families is effective, ensuring children receive early support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff monitor children's progress and focus activities on areas where children may need further support. Staff understand children's needs very well. They share information effectively and all know how they can help individual children progress. Staff ask questions as children play and encourage them to explore and test out their ideas. They carefully observe children's interests and revisit activities to help them secure their knowledge and understanding. Staff sit with children as they play, offering encouragement and praise. This helps children to feel valued and encourages them to engage in activities and succeed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children of all ages are very independent. They take pride in their achievements and enjoy taking responsibility for themselves, such as laying the table for lunch and pouring their own drinks. Children are encouraged to remember their 'golden rules' about behaviour and staff praise them for using good manners and sharing well. Children enjoy using the outdoor area and having space to be active. They develop their understanding of how to keep their bodies healthy, such as talking about healthy choices at snack and mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making typical progress from their starting points. They are developing the skills required for starting school. Children develop their mathematical skills. They enjoy cutting out different numbers from magazines, starting to name them. Children work together well, such as when acting out favourite stories using puppets. All children have fun and enjoy their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511691
Local authority	Richmond Upon Thames
Inspection number	10065589
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	Squirrel's Nursery Association Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522072
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2015
Telephone number	020 8893 3645

Squirrels Day Nursery registered in 1991 and is run by a voluntary committee. The nursery is based on the grounds of Nelson Primary School in Whitton, in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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