

Spring - Seesaw

Lancaster Way, Braintree, Essex CM7 5UL



Inspection date	18 October 2018
Previous inspection date	8 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- There is a significant improvement in safeguarding practice across the nursery. This is having a very positive impact on ensuring children are safe, secure and protected.
- Communication and language intervention activities with the older children, although at an early stage, are successful. Children are enjoying participating in the specifically planned small-group activities and are using their speaking and listening skills well.
- Parents continue to speak positively about the nursery. They appreciate the care and kindness shown by staff. Parents say they have a high level of trust in the staff and appreciate the support they offer.
- Staff are sensitive to children's needs. They offer comfort to children who are upset. Staff are observant and aware of when children need to rest. They make sure they help children to settle for sleep.
- Positive improvements with planning to address gaps in children's learning have resulted in some exciting experiences for children. Staff are putting a great deal of thought into how to enhance children's learning and play.
- The manager holds regular supervision meetings with each member of staff. She helps them to address any practice issues and identifies training needs. This has a positive impact on the overall quality of the provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The youngest children do not have as many opportunities as the older children to focus on rapidly developing their speaking and listening skills.
- Staff do not always organise meal and snack times in a way that supports all children effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to extend the opportunities for the younger children to develop their speaking and listening skills
- review the organisation of busy snack and meal times to support children more effectively and to help them continue to learn.

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 observed an adult-led activity and evaluated it with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Revised procedures for monitoring accidents and existing injuries are implemented effectively. Staff check for hazards in the environment and take steps to minimise these. They make sure toys in the garden are dry to prevent children slipping or getting too wet. They work with the local school to continue to support children well as they move on to the new setting. Further partnerships with other professionals are working well. The manager seeks additional support for children and their families. Staff monitor children's progress and identify gaps in their learning. They share information with parents about children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with interesting experiences that help them to learn. Children have fun with small plastic animals moving them across logs and making animal sounds. Staff help children to learn about the natural world. Children care for their millipede. They explain what it looks like and how it likes to hide in its tank. Children care for the plants that they grow in the garden, making sure they have plenty of water. Children are enthusiastic about singing. Staff use a variety of props to help children decide on which songs to sing. They further enhance children's enjoyment by providing musical instruments. Staff regularly observe children as they play. They use the online system to share pictures and written observations with parents.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are busy outdoors. They enjoy the early morning fresh air as they use ride-on tricycles and play with the sand. Relationships between staff and children are good. Staff are keen to help children behave well and to be kind to each other. The rewards charts help children to see how well they are doing as they cross the lily pad or planet to reach their destination and their reward. Children quickly learn about taking turns as they play simple card games with staff. Children follow appropriate hygiene routines. The oldest children are quite responsible in managing their self-care needs and the younger children have the support of staff to help them learn to wash their hands and use the potty. Children's dietary needs are met. They love the meals and show great excitement when the nursery cooks arrives with the lunch.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points on entry to nursery. They learn number sequences as they play the imaginative mathematics games made by staff. Children enjoy stories and are eager to have staff read to them. In small-group time children listen carefully. They predict what might happen in the story and confidently retell familiar tales. Children develop their concentration skills and are prepared for school. They like to show others that they are independent and responsible.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539461
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10079477
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Action For Children Developments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP539433
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2018
Telephone number	01376 555260

Spring Lancaster Way registered in 2016. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 9 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery receives early education funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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