

Little Crickets Nursery

The Cricket Pavilion Backside Common, Frog Grove Lane, Wood Street
Village, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU3 3EZ



Inspection date	19 October 2018
Previous inspection date	26 January 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

- The staff team provides a warm and caring environment that welcomes children and their families. The small team works closely together and communicates well with each other to meet children's needs. Children form good relationships with their key person and other staff, which helps them to feel safe and secure. Staff are friendly, approachable and offer reassurance to those who need it.
- Children have access to a range of interesting activities to help them develop new skills that support them to achieve their next steps in learning. They make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff welcome parents into the nursery and keep them well informed. They successfully involve them in their children's learning. For example, they invite parents to stay-and-play sessions, using this time to share learning ideas to help support their child's development at home.
- Staff establish effective partnerships. They build links with other professionals involved with the children to promote continuity for children's progress and well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- A range of training opportunities are not consistently accessed by all staff to fully support highly focussed professional development.
- Sometimes daily routines are not highly effective at meeting the learning needs of younger children and those who have just started at the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for targeted training and continued professional development of staff to raise the quality of practice to an even higher level
- evaluate more thoroughly the impact of daily routines on the quality of learning opportunities for younger children and those new to the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed practice and staff interactions with children and assessed the impact of this on their learning.
- The inspector explored the arrangements for safeguarding of children. She also completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and the other members of staff to discuss areas of leadership and management, including supervision and support arrangements and the use of the self-evaluation process.
- The inspector spoke with parents, read a number of emails and took account of their views and comments.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of suitability checks of staff that work directly with children and children's developmental records of progress.

Inspector
Nina Lambkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to protect children, and the procedures to follow if they have a concern. Staff undertake effective daily risk assessments to provide a safe and stimulating environment. Robust recruitment and vetting arrangements ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. The leadership team and new manager evaluate their practice and identify areas of development for the nursery. They use these reflections to make and plan improvements to their current practice. Overall, staff are supported well through staff meetings and appraisals and they all attend statutory training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carefully organise the indoor and outdoor areas, so that children have opportunities to play with a wide range of toys and resources. They get to know the children well through regular observations, assessments and discussions with parents and provide activities that build on children's interests. Children enjoy spending time at the nursery. They increase their confidence as they explore the environment and make choices for themselves. Children are encouraged to take appropriate risks, such as when using knives to carve pumpkins. Staff use effective teaching to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, they repeat familiar activities with children to strengthen their concentration skills and understanding of instructions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children follow good hygiene routines and experience sociable snack and mealtimes. Regular free-flow access to the outdoor learning environment ensures that those children who prefer to learn outdoors have opportunities to develop their skills. This also helps to promote good health and physical well-being. Older children communicate confidently. They listen to stories, understand instructions and ask questions of visitors. Staff provide children with a wide range of opportunities to learn about diversity beyond their own experiences. Children learn how to manage their own behaviour and understand the needs of others. Independence is highly valued and children successfully take care of their own belongings, such as putting their coats and bags away on their own peg.

Outcomes for children are good

All children achieve well and make good progress. They develop key skills that prepare them for the next stage in their learning. Children have enjoyable opportunities to develop their mathematical understanding and early writing skills. For example, through simple number rhymes they learn about one more and one less. They have opportunities for mark making in a variety of ways, such as drawing in sand and with chalk on wooden log slices. Older children give meanings to the marks they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY433826
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10074909
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	36
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Nurturing Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP524053
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2016
Telephone number	01252 400221

Little Crickets Nursery is one of three early years settings owned by Tongham Daycare Ltd. The nursery registered in 2011 and is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 3pm during school term times. The nursery offers funded nursery education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 10 staff, of whom eight have relevant qualifications, including two at level 6 and one at level 7.

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