

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Stevenage

North Herts College, London Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG1 1GG



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| Inspection date | 29 October 2018 |
| Previous inspection date | 18 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

- The well-qualified staff team are nurturing and build secure bonds with children in this welcoming nursery. The effective key-person system fully supports children to swiftly settle and make a seamless move between rooms.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents and involve them in every aspect of their children's learning. Parents receive detailed feedback about their children's good progress and the activities they have enjoyed. Information evenings provide parents with a wealth of ideas to support children's learning at home. Parents are very complimentary about the service that staff provide.
- The manager and staff strive for excellence. They are reflective and regularly evaluate the provision they offer using a variety of methods. The introduction of a children's council means that children's views are genuinely valued and staff actively respond to their suggestions.
- Children engage in a wide range of challenging and interesting learning experiences. For example, they have fun working out how a kaleidoscope works and explore the patterns it creates as they rotate it in different directions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully support children who speak English as an additional language to use their home language to enhance their speaking skills.
- Staff do not consistently respond to older children's questions to enhance their curiosity that truly challenges and extends their understanding of nature and living things.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to develop and use their home language
- encourage older children's curiosity, responding consistently to their questions to extend their growing understanding of nature and living things.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and divisional childcare adviser. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager monitors children's progress thoroughly and takes swift action to address any gaps in children's learning. Regular supervisory meetings and good training opportunities strengthen staff's knowledge. Recent training has increased staff's awareness of using various questioning techniques to enhance children's deep-thinking skills. Staff are dedicated to their role. They take pride in their individual professional development achievements. Secure partnerships with other providers that children attend fully support children's continuity of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Babies discover how to create different colours. They use the palm of their hand to push puddles of coloured paint together. Staff consistently respond to the babbles of babies. This helps them to learn the pattern of conversation. Staff skilfully support children's listening and attention skills. For instance, they make stories come alive as they use intonation in their voice and puppets. Staff's enthusiasm motivates younger children to join in with some words and actions to their favourite songs. They introduce younger children to mathematical words, such as 'up' and 'down'. Older children concentrate for sustained periods of time at their chosen activities. They use complex shaped building blocks and their vivid imagination to construct a hotel. Children listen to each other's ideas and work together adding intricate details, such as coloured stones to represent a swimming pool.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use the communal spaces within the nursery to effectively support children to develop friendly relationships. All children behave well and contribute to the calm atmosphere throughout the nursery. Staff support children's understanding of the importance of a healthy diet and a good oral hygiene routine. Babies develop good strength and stamina in preparation for walking and balancing. Younger children enjoy pushing themselves along on bicycles and older children balance and bounce on large inflatable balls.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent individuals. Babies feed themselves from a young age and younger children put on their coat before playing outdoors. Older children are beginning to form the letters of their name and write signs which staff display in the nursery. They show a keen interest in books and confidently retell their favourite stories. Children identify the difference between two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes. All children gain the skills needed to help to prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY289906 |
| Local authority | Hertfordshire |
| Inspection number | 10079521 |
| 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 | 98 |
| Number of children on roll | 132 |
| Name of registered person | Busy Bees Day Nurseries Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP900809 |
| Date of previous inspection | 18 May 2018 |
| Telephone number | 01438 365692 |

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Stevenage registered in 2004 and is managed by Busy Bees Day Nurseries Limited. The nursery employs 28 members of childcare staff. Of these, 20 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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