

Little Explorers Day Nursery

Jenny Field Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2RP



Inspection date	23 January 2019
Previous inspection date	28 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of the environment and teaching is exceptional. Practitioners consistently respond quickly to the needs of children. They plan rich, diverse and highly stimulating experiences.
- The commitment of leaders and managers to pursue excellence is superb. They empower the nursery practitioners with a deep understanding of the curriculum. This leads to continual improvement.
- Children's emotional well-being is paramount and at the heart of everything practitioners do. Children of all ages form very secure attachments with practitioners and thrive through the sensitive and intuitive interactions.
- Staff build excellent relationships with parents. There is comprehensive information-sharing. Consequently, children's individual needs are exceedingly well met and they flourish.
- British values are deeply embedded and impressive to see. Children spontaneously show respect for one another and listen to each other's views. Practitioners constantly act as positive role models. They treat children with the utmost dignity and respect.
- Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stages in their learning, including starting school. They are highly motivated to learn, often recalling previous learning and extending their ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to embed the newly implemented tracking system to further enhance the already excellent monitoring of gaps in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between practitioners and children.
- The inspector talked to practitioners and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the leaders of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of practitioners.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector jointly evaluated an activity with the leaders of the nursery.

Inspector

Ginny Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders and managers provide a curriculum that is interesting, responsive and demanding. Children behave exceptionally well. The views and contributions of parents are valued, respected and acted upon. Leaders and managers demonstrate a phenomenal level of ambition to improve the nursery. They continually reflect on and evaluate the effectiveness of teaching. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and managers have developed a culture of vigilance. Practitioners are trained to identify the possible signs of abuse. They understand what they should do if they have a concern about a child in their care. Leaders and managers implement robust recruitment procedures and all practitioners are fully vetted before they begin working with children. Work with external agencies to promote children's welfare is very effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The learning environment is inspiring. Children independently access a range of exciting activities and resources. Practitioners skilfully follow children's interests and are highly reactive to emerging fascinations. They use their expert knowledge to promote learning at every opportunity. Children are eager to explore. They work purposefully for prolonged periods of time as they extend their thinking and learn new skills. They use their imagination and thrive as their ideas and skills are sensitively developed. For example, children developed their mathematical skills as they sorted, compared and matched circles in dough. They find out about the world around them as they play, for example digging in frozen ground. Children show high levels of engagement, such as during the inspection when they persevered with mark-making tools to create their interpretation of a dinosaur. Communication and language skills are developed efficiently in all interactions between practitioners and children. Children delighted in and were captivated by practitioners as they made the noises of animals in a jungle story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children feel safe in the environment and develop a positive sense of themselves. For example, after going to the toilet independently they sing out loud and dance around. They exclaim how happy they are with their achievements. Children are confident to talk to visitors and show off their work with pride. They settle into the nursery with ease due to the support of the practitioners. Children consistently use good manners and demonstrate exceptional levels of consideration for others. For example, they independently acknowledge the work of other children and congratulate them. Children learn about keeping healthy as they play outdoors. They develop confidence in their own abilities as they serve their own food at lunchtime and clean up after themselves. Parents comment very positively about the care their children receive.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children clearly express their thoughts and emotions. They are enthusiastic about all aspects of the curriculum. Leaders and managers have wonderful aspirations for all children and intend to extend their already excellent monitoring of children's learning. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make remarkable progress. Differences between groups of children are diminishing rapidly.

Setting details

Unique reference number	400133
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	10060190
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Harrogate Borough Council
Registered person unique reference number	RP907383
Date of previous inspection	28 May 2015
Telephone number	01423 556764

Little Explorers Day Nursery was established in 1990. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Two staff members hold qualifications at level 6, including one with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 8am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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