

Caterham The Laurels Day Nursery and Preschool

41 Town End, CATERHAM, Surrey CR3 5UJ



Inspection date	8 November 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

This provision is good

- Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, all make good progress, based on their starting points on entry.
- Children gain very good knowledge and understanding about diversity. For example, they learn the meaning of Diwali and about different types of families, through staff's innovative planning.
- Partnership with parents is very good. Staff provide parents with regular information about their children's learning and development, and nursery operational matters.
- Managers make good use of self-evaluation to identify and target priorities for improvement. For example, new room leaders in the pre-school room have increased the level of challenge presented to children.
- Snacks and meals are highly nutritious. Staff make good use of mealtimes to encourage children's social skills and independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the levels of coaching for less experienced staff to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently high standard, and pay particular attention to supporting staff in their use of assessment and planning for outdoor play and learning
- increase resources to support children's imaginative play and to encourage deeper, more sustained and challenging play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation relating to safeguarding and staff's suitability.
- The inspector discussed children's progress and the self-evaluation process used by managers and staff.
- The inspector sought and took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with managers and held meetings with them.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Procedures for recruiting, vetting and inducting new staff are very robust. Staff receive regular one-to-one supervision from managers and good training opportunities. For example, last month managers introduced staff to the concept of 'sustained shared thinking' during a staff meeting and staff are now implementing this well in the pre-school rooms. Managers' improvement plans are appropriately focused on what is most pertinent. For example, a newly designed in-house training programme is being rolled out in January to improve staff's use of assessment. Managers have established systems for tracking the progress of all groups of children. Safeguarding is effective. Risk assessments are rigorous and help to ensure that staff do not compromise children's dietary needs. Staff attend regular safeguarding training and are knowledgeable of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan and provide a good range of indoor activities that encourages young children to explore and experiment using their senses. For example, staff model how to squelch spaghetti in their hands and playfully cover toy animals with a flour-and-water mixture. While doing this, they repeat the names of animals and their sounds which babies copy. Topical planning, such as for Halloween and Diwali, is well thought through and delivered by pre-school staff to support broad learning. For example, children learn about different species of spiders when a mobile zoo visits. They learn how to create shaped and repeated patterns with chalks and coloured rice as they make rangoli designs. Staff encourage children to work together to solve practical problems, such as preventing lines of coloured rice from merging together. Staff encourage children's conversational skills well during activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff build strong emotional bonds with their key children. They successfully help them transfer to new rooms and school. Wherever possible, babies have their nappies changed by their key person, and staff maximise opportunities to spend individual time with them. Babies sleep at times wholly consistent with their home routines. Staff are kind and patient, and consistently promote positive and safe behaviour. For example, staff remind children of the safety rules using their toy friend 'Candyfloss' who watches over them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for starting school. Babies and toddlers develop strong muscles in their hands. Toddlers competently use chunky marker pens. Older children learn to recognise and write their names, and are beginning to link letters to sounds. Children thoroughly enjoy listening to stories and enthusiastically contribute to group discussions. They confidently experiment, for instance, as they make potions for a cauldron during Halloween. Children work brilliantly together to solve practical problems and develop ideas, such as for representing the bones of a skeleton using cotton buds.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544935
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10082914
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01883337702

Caterham The Laurels Day Nursery and Preschool is part of a large chain owned by Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited. Bright Horizons re-registered the nursery in 2014 due to a change in legal identity. The nursery is located in Caterham, Surrey. In total, 21 staff are currently employed to work with the children. The manager holds a childcare qualification at level 6 and the deputy at level 5. Of the remaining staff, 10 hold a qualification at level 3, two at level 2 and seven are unqualified. The nursery operates Monday to Friday between 7.30am and 6.30pm, throughout the year. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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