

Tree House Friends

Trent Park, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, Enfield EN4 0PS



Inspection date	15 March 2019
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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They respond very well to the high expectations set by all staff. Staff promote children's personal development and well-being extremely well. Children learn to take risks and have great fun in a safe and caring setting.
- Staff get to know children very well. Children develop strong independence skills and show high levels of perseverance in their learning. They explore the natural environment with confidence. Staff interactions with children are effective and promote children's language and communication skills well. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Leaders have established an effective and well-organised setting that meets the needs of all children well. Leaders demonstrate an accurate understanding of the setting's strengths and priorities for improvement. They work effectively with staff, parents and carers to evaluate the setting.
- Leaders have not extended the programme of professional development to ensure the quality of teaching is consistently of the highest quality. Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to fully extend children's learning.
- Not all staff use the newly established assessment system as effectively as possible to better support their planning procedures.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the programme of professional development for staff so that the quality of teaching is consistently high
- embed fully the new planning and assessment procedures to promote the best possible outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's learning in the 'base camp' and on a walk into the woods. He observed daily routines, including snack time and morning registration, and singing.
- The inspector held meetings with the managers and spoke with other members of staff throughout the day. He met with a representative of the local authority.
- The inspector sampled documentation related to children's learning, staff suitability and a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector met with parents. He spoke with children throughout the day.

Inspector

Gary Rawlings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders ensure that all staff are well trained to identify and report potential risks to children. Staff have a clear understanding of how to keep children safe in an outdoor setting. They ensure procedures are fully adapted and risk assessments are bespoke to this setting. Staff assess risks effectively, including those associated with strangers using the park, dogs, and playing in the woods near water. Staff morale is high. All staff meet regularly to discuss children's learning. Leaders meet with staff to discuss their practice and identify training needs. They work effectively with parents and other settings. Staff provide detailed information to parents about the setting and their children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Parents compliment the quality of teaching and learning. Parents choose the setting because of its uniqueness. They praise their children's outdoor learning and how staff promote their children's independence and self-esteem. Staff support children's skills in all areas of learning effectively, including literacy, mathematics and language. They have set up a 'base camp' under a canopy, which used effectively. Children enjoy singing sessions, storytelling and going on nature walks to collect soil for their seeds. Staff encourage children to explore, ask questions and find things out for themselves. Children learn to sort branches according to their size and measure. They use their imaginations well in the mud kitchen. Staff promote children's understanding of the world very effectively. For example, during a story about worms, children excitedly find and observe a real worm in the undergrowth.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children respond to the well-established routines that are in place to keep them safe. They demonstrate an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe and recite the setting's rules fluently. Staff promote children's independence extremely well and encourage children to take risks. For example, children climb and balance on a large fallen tree with increasing control. They find ways to cross the stream safely. Children have great fun rehousing a beetle in their 'bug hotel', discussing the things it will need to survive. Children are gentle and kind to each other and the insects they find. Children behave exceptionally well. They form strong relationships with staff who are kind and sensitive. Staff instill a sense of fun into the setting and children enjoy every moment. Children develop strong social skills. Staff promote healthy lifestyles exceptionally well, with a strong focus on children's physical and emotional well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. They acquire a range of skills across all areas of learning and make good progress from their unique starting points. Importantly, children develop the confidence and independence to try new things and find things out for themselves. They develop good speaking and listening skills through their interactions with staff. Children are creative and enjoy activities such as painting and labelling daffodils that are growing in the fields. They are well supported to develop age-appropriate skills in mathematics and literacy.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY542061
Local authority	Enfield
Inspection number	10089618
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Tree House Friends Childcare Services Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP542060
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0744 5093 585

Tree House Friends registered in 2016. The setting is located in Trent Park in the London Borough of Enfield. The setting is based outdoors. The setting is open from 9am to 3pm, five days a week, open all year. The setting employs five members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 or above.

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