

The Crescent Nursery School

Merrow Cricket Club, Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey GU4 7AA



Inspection date	12 June 2019
Previous inspection date	29 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Outstanding	1 1
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

- Staff use accurate assessments of children's progress highly effectively to plan extremely challenging activities. They follow a unique approach to plan for the individual learning needs of each child. Children make excellent progress in preparation for school, including those who start in the nursery with development levels lower than expected for their ages.
- Staff are an inspiration to children and foster their well-being in this highly inclusive nursery. They show excellent levels of care and consideration towards each child and their family. Children thrive in the highly stimulating environment. They are extremely happy, settle quickly and form very secure attachments with all staff.
- Staff work extremely well with parents to ensure that each child has continuity of care and their development needs are well known. Parents are highly complimentary of the staff team and value the support and guidance they receive.
- Staff work highly effectively in partnership with outside agencies. They provide targeted support to ensure they consistently meet the individual care and learning needs of each child. This leads to exceptionally successful outcomes for all children.
- The provider and staff are extremely committed to achieving the highest possible standards. They actively engage in developing highly effective improvement plans to maintain the excellent provision. For example, after a review of the outdoor environments, staff made changes that significantly raised children's physical and emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor staff practice to maintain and strengthen the excellent teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at various documents, including policies and procedures, risk assessments, staff training records, records for children and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Jane Franks

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Staff knowledge of child protection is comprehensive. They have an excellent understanding of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The provider monitors staff performance extremely effectively, leading to a highly skilled and well-qualified staff team. This has been identified by the provider as an area she will continue to extend, to help maintain the outstanding teaching and learning. The provider monitors children's progress meticulously and embraces new initiatives and research to significantly improve outcomes for children. For example, she ensures that new ideas, such as from speech and language training, are implemented with positive impact. The early intervention to close gaps in learning helps staff to ensure that all children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, make rapid progress and catch up with their peers.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have exceptional teaching skills and use innovative strategies to reinforce children's learning and help expand on what they already know. Children show an excellent understanding of how things grow and change over time. They water the flowers and talk about the diverse colours, shapes and patterns on the petals. Staff listen with great interest to what children tell them and question them highly effectively. This helps to extend children's language skills. For example, children smell herbs, such as mint and describe their different aromas. They are extremely inquisitive and work as a team to think of similar scents such as toothpaste, discussing how sweet food can cause tooth cavities. Children demonstrate excellent skills in numeracy. They measure a variety of objects in the garden and confidently use mathematical language such as 'more than' and 'less than'. Older children demonstrate remarkable writing skills. They write down their figures and learn to think about 'higher' and 'lower' numbers as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. Their trust and sense of well-being are highly evident in the way they interact with staff and visitors. Staff promote children's health and well-being exceptionally well. For example, children thoroughly enjoy their fruit at snack time and discuss with their friends that the peel on fruit contains vitamins. They talk about the weather outside and the need to drink water to stay hydrated. Children have a wealth of opportunities to practise their physical skills and learn how to manage their own risk and keep themselves safe. For instance, they build campfires in local woodlands and have excellent opportunities to roast marshmallows. Staff place a high priority on children safety and supervise them vigilantly.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children show high levels of perseverance and dig in the soil with great enthusiasm. They show a fascination with their natural environment and eagerly discuss the objects they find. Children compare leaves, create homes for bugs and learn the names of different insects. All children develop the skills that they need for a successful transition to the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	120263
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10104226
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Flaherty, Lynn Ann
Registered person unique reference number	RP511975
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2015
Telephone number	01483 537280

The Crescent Nursery School registered in 1988 and operates from Merrow Cricket Club, near Guildford, Surrey. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff, including the proprietor. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status and four hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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