

Inspection of Little Sparrows Nursery Esher

45-47 New Road, Esher, Surrey KT10 9NU

Inspection date: 30 September 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Well-considered settling-in arrangements support children to develop close relationships with staff and settle quickly. This helps them to feel safe and secure. Children are excited to arrive at the nursery and eagerly greet their friends. Children comment that the nursery is 'lots of fun'.

Children's behaviour is very good. They listen well, follow instructions and are keen to be involved in activities. They develop a strong understanding of rules and expectations, as well as how to manage risks and their personal safety. For example, they confidently recall the rules for trips, and the importance of closing gates and not picking up 'living things'.

Staff are strong role models and work well as a team. They work closely with parents to ensure that they develop a deep understanding of children's individual needs. Staff plan experiences that support children's interests. Children are offered a wealth of opportunities to learn about nature. For instance, children eagerly explore conkers and examine their 'spiky shells'. They confidently tell visitors about the sounds of 'dead wood' as they tap on the trunks and look for minibeasts as they explore the outdoors. Staff use spontaneous learning opportunities well. However, they do not consistently challenge children's existing knowledge to help them develop their thinking skills further. Children are curious learners and enjoy using their imaginations. For example, they create 'digging sticks' from twigs and enjoy making homes for worms using small logs.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leaders have developed a comprehensive curriculum that supports children to develop their skills and knowledge across all seven areas of learning. They have high expectations of what children can learn and value the importance of outdoor learning. Children have access to a well-resourced environment that encourages them to make choices about their own play.
- Leaders and staff have high expectations for children, including those with English as an additional language. They seek parents' views about what their children have learned at home. They make accurate observations and assessments of children's development to identify what they know and can do.
- Children enjoy the wide range of activities that are available, indoors and outdoors. Staff talk to children as they play and ask questions to check their knowledge and understanding. However, at times they do not challenge children to use their thinking skills to extend their knowledge and skills to a higher level.
- Children are keen to do things for themselves and develop a positive attitude to learning. Staff encourage them to make their own decisions and foster independence skills well. However, on occasion they miss opportunities to build

children's confidence and resilience in new activities to enhance their emotional development.

- Children are supported to develop a good understanding of how their bodies work. For instance, they listen carefully to staff as they learn the steps of 'balloon breathing'. They focus on expanding their tummies as they take deep breaths before practising arm movements to prepare them for learning. This helps children to develop good control of their bodies.
- Staff build strong partnerships with parents. They regularly share information with parents about activities being offered to their children and events in the setting. Parents speak highly of how quickly their children settle into the nursery and comment that they come on in 'leaps and bounds'. They compliment the staff and describe them as 'kind' and 'trustworthy'.
- Leaders are committed to the ongoing development of the nursery. They have developed a robust staff development programme that includes regular supervision and group training. They recognise the importance of sharing ideas with parents to support learning at home. For example, they invite parents to workshops and training events to learn about child development.
- Leaders take the happiness and well-being of staff seriously. As a result, staff are passionate about their roles and promoting the best outcomes for children. All staff embed kindness and respect in all aspects of their practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers ensure that all staff are trained in child protection. Staff have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms that indicate a child may be at risk of abuse or neglect. They talk confidently of the signs that indicate a risk of wider safeguarding issues. Staff understand the procedure to follow to report a concern about a child's safety or welfare. Recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. Staff are vigilant. For example, they support children to understand about keeping safe online and have a robust entry system to ensure children's personal safety is paramount.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- use opportunities that arise to challenge children to develop their thinking skills to help to develop their knowledge and skills to the highest level
- extend opportunities for children to learn how to manage their own feelings, to help to develop their confidence and resilience in new activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY267741
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10108556
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Little Sparrows Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905709
Telephone number	07961 600 223
Date of previous inspection	4 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

Little Sparrows Nursery Esher registered in 2003. The nursery is open from 9.15am to 2.45pm on Monday to Thursday, and from 9.15am to 1pm on Friday, during term time only. There are 14 members of staff; of these, nine hold early years qualifications at Level 3. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Edwards

Inspection activities

- The management team gave the inspector a learning walk of the nursery. They discussed how the management team organises the early years provision and how the curriculum supports children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector and the nursery manager conducted a joint observation to look at teaching practice.
- The inspector had a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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