

Inspection of Little Elms Daycare Shirley

Doctors Surgery, 2 South Way, Croydon CR0 8RP

Inspection date: 22 October 2019

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and feel safe and secure at the nursery. They have established warm and caring relationships with staff. Children confidently approach staff for cuddles. Babies snuggle into staff as they share books and giggle as they lift the flaps on the pages to reveal different animals. Staff are calm and consistently offer praise and encouragement, which supports children in understanding their expectations. Overall, children's behaviour is good, and they learn how to manage their feelings. They follow routines well and staff are particularly good at letting children know when it is time to do something different. Older children proudly show staff things that they have made. Staff take time to talk to children about their achievements and encourage them to share these with their peers at circle time. Children engage in a range of activities and are motivated to learn. Staff provide a range of indoor and outdoor play resources for children to explore. Staff are skilled at introducing mathematical concepts within children's play. Young children learn about colours as they explore dough, and older children learn about space and size as they build towers with blocks. Children's physical development is supported well. For example, outdoors, toddlers jump in and out of hoops and climb aboard the large fire engine.

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

- The management team has secured improvements since the previous inspection to support children's learning, development and well-being. The staff team is now consistent and there is a secure key-person system in place which enables children to build close and meaningful relationships. It is evident from the way children seek support from staff and engage with them during their play that they feel secure at the setting.
- Children's communication and language skills are developing well. Songs and rhymes are regularly incorporated into daily routines. Staff use songs to engage children at key times throughout the day, such as singing the 'ready for dinner' song at lunchtime. Repetitive songs and rhymes help younger children to learn about routines and develop their vocabulary. Staff support children to explore their ideas and thoughts. For example, children acted out 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' using role play and made their own suggestions to adapt the story, such as, 'Let's go on a dinosaur hunt.'
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. Staff work closely with parents to ensure that they offer a consistent approach to build on children's development. Staff work with other professionals to ensure that children's needs are well planned for and supported in the nursery.
- Staff support children's independence skills well. Children serve their own meals and learn how to put on their own coats. Many resources are accessible to enable children to make choices about the activities they wish to do. However,

resources to encourage children to use their senses to explore a range of textures are limited.

- Systems to support children's learning and development are constantly reviewed. Good progress in this area has been made since the last inspection. Staff are clear about what children should learn from activities, and they monitor children's progress well to identify any gaps in their learning.
- Parents comment that their children have made good progress at the setting and they find the staff caring, sensitive and friendly. Parents particularly value the information that staff share with them on their child's development. Staff are keen to support parents in helping them to develop their children's learning at home. For example, parents have been invited into the setting to do a workshop on the curriculum, and the book lending scheme helps children to develop a love for reading.
- The management team gives regard to the well-being of staff, who feel supported by leaders and managers to carry out their roles effectively.
- Staff have not developed links with the local community, including local schools, to enhance experiences for children and to support their transitions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the possible signs that a child's safety and welfare may be at risk. They are aware of child protection policies and procedures to follow and the provider understands when it is appropriate to notify Ofsted of any relevant concerns. Staff have regular training to keep their knowledge up to date. There are secure recruitment procedures in place to assess the suitability of staff to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with more opportunities to explore and develop their sensory experiences
- develop links with the local community to enhance experiences for children, including establishing links with local schools to support children's transitions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489229
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10105377
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 5
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	122
Name of registered person	Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902320
Telephone number	02382022462
Date of previous inspection	26 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Elms Daycare Shirley registered in 2015. It is located in the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery opens each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for 52 weeks of the year. The provider employs 29 staff. Of these, 23 staff have early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to an early years degree. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Laura Brewer

Inspection activities

- The inspector and manager completed a learning walk to gain an understanding of how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- The quality of education was observed indoors and outdoors.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of teaching.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector also took into consideration written feedback from parents regarding their views of the provision.
- A meeting was held with the manager, which included discussions about how improvements had been implemented since the last inspection.
- A sample of documents were reviewed, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.

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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