

Inspection of Kenleys Day Nursery

Kenleys Nursery School, 289 Dean Cross Road, PLYMOUTH PL9 7AZ

Inspection date: 8 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff create a warm and welcoming environment for children and their families. Children have a strong sense of belonging and are happy and safe. As a result, they form extremely positive attachments with staff. Babies seek reassurance from their key person when they settle at nursery. They quickly engage in a wide range of rich play and learning opportunities. Children behave well, share and take turns. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported. Staff regularly liaise with other professionals to ensure that children are making the best possible progress in their development. Children have plenty of opportunities to develop their literacy skills. They use interesting materials such as play dough, spaghetti and lentils to develop early writing skills.

Older children develop their understanding of the world. They use maps as they pretend to go on a journey to 'the great wall of China'. Staff support children's imagination well as they help children to organise chairs to represent an aeroplane. Children learn about safety as staff remind them to ensure they have their seat belts on. Children bump up and down on their chairs as they take to the air. Babies and younger children enjoy singing songs. They are captivated when staff use props, for example finger puppets when singing 'Old MacDonald'. Toddlers are encouraged to make choices by selecting the picture of the song they want to sing.

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

- Since the last inspection, the quality of teaching has improved. The manager has revised the way in which staff plan activities. Staff have a much clearer understanding of what children know and can do. They think carefully about appropriate next steps to ensure that all children are making good progress in all areas of learning.
- Babies explore a range of textures, such as cornflakes and mashed potato in a large tray, to support their sensory development. They enjoy mixing the textures together and seeing how they feel on their hands and feet.
- Toddlers learn about mathematical concepts. They compare the size of their cars as they place them into the large tube to see how fast they travel.
- Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active. Older toddlers and pre-school children have plenty of opportunities to build, for example large towers from soft-play blocks. They can run, climb and ride bikes in the garden. They build confidence as they learn to manage their own risks when climbing up the steps to the slide.
- Children enjoy freshly cooked meals and snacks which are provided by the nursery chef. Mealtimes are social occasions where children talk to one another about their day. They tell their friends about their swimming during the morning session.

- Partnerships with parents are extremely effective. Parents speak highly of the care provided. Parents are provided with regular feedback on their children's progress and development. They are consulted with any proposed changes. For example, parents are invited to vote on whether they would like to see more flexible childcare by placing an acorn in a jar to cast their vote.
- Overall, the quality of teaching is good. However, at times, staff can speak too fast, which does not allow children enough time to process the information. As a result, some children struggle to keep up with the pace of the activity and are not as engaged as they could be.
- Staff generally promote children's independence well. For example, they tidy away their toys, take off their coats and attend to their self-care needs. However, staff do not consistently provide further opportunities for older children's independence to be fully promoted.
- The manager is reflective on practice, which enables her to identify the key strengths and areas for improvement. She evaluates what is working well and has a clear action plan for future improvements. She has identified training which has helped staff develop their knowledge and skills. For example, with a higher number of boys attending, 'motivating boys' training helped staff think about different ways to capture boys' interest. As a result, boys are more engaged in a variety of activities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have clear procedures in place in the event of concerns about a child's welfare. The designated person for safeguarding has a good understanding of the procedure to follow in the event of an allegation against a member of staff. All visitors are given a safeguarding guide when they arrive to familiarise themselves with the safeguarding procedures. Mobile phones are not permitted to be used in playrooms. Staff are appropriately checked and vetted, and those whose suitability has not been checked do not have any unsupervised access to children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to develop further opportunities to promote older children's independence
- consider how staff communicate with children during activities, taking into account the speed in which they speak, to allow children to process and understand what is being said.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429704
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10093338
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 to 10
Total number of places	119
Number of children on roll	155
Name of registered person	Kenleys Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530758
Telephone number	01752 481181
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2019

Information about this early years setting

Kenleys Day Nursery opened under its current ownership in 2011 and is situated in Plymouth, Devon. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am until 6pm, all year round. There are 20 members of staff, 17 of whom hold relevant qualifications between level 2 and 6. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Johanna Hughes
Katherine Lamb

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a learning walk to establish how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- The inspectors held discussions with the manager and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspectors carried out two joint observations on the quality of teaching and education.
- The inspector gathered the views and feedback of parents.
- The inspectors observed children during their play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a leadership and management discussion with the manager.
- The inspectors sampled a range of documentation.

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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