

Inspection of Happy Days Nursery

91 - 93 Chalcombe Avenue, Northampton, Northamptonshire NN2 8LB

Inspection date: 14 January 2020

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children relish their time in this setting. They are excited and full of curiosity when they arrive. For example, they quickly become absorbed in feeling the texture of the paint on the cling film and comparing this to using paint on paper. Babies form extremely close bonds with their key person and readily turn to them for a hug before going back to their play.

Children are highly independent and very keen to do things for themselves. Toddlers show a lot of persistence in making their own sandwiches. They master using the knife to spread on the butter and make healthy choices of fillings. Babies are developing a real love for books, and staff read enthusiastically no matter how many times the younger children ask for their favourite story. They love turning the pages and making the props and puppets walk across the page while the staff read. Children's behaviour is exemplary. For example, older children happily take turns in games such as 'snap' and they accept losing with good grace. Other children happily play cooperatively together, taking it in turns to dig for treasure. Staff are highly enthusiastic and encourage children to tackle more challenging activities. For example, children energetically use all their large body movements to climb in and out of the huge tyres. They very quickly learn to balance and use the two-wheeled bicycles and are adept at avoiding obstacles while riding at speed.

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

- Staff prioritise children's language development right from the very start. For example, babies readily use some signs to support their communication. They eagerly repeat words that they hear the staff say, such as the names of animals. Older children use more complex sentences to plan and explain what they might do next. For example, they share with their friends what they are going to play with after lunch.
- Staff promote children's literacy skills particularly well. Younger children love making marks in the mud outside or having a go at writing the letters of their name in the sand. Older children know that their marks carry meaning. They become absorbed in making lots of careful lines and squiggles in rows to represent writing. They explain that they have written a food list so they can go shopping.
- Staff make highly accurate assessments of what children can do and what they need to learn next. They are excellent at weaving this into their planning and provision of activities. For example, they make sure they provide activities which excite children. Children are highly delighted to find shiny stones unexpectedly in the sand. Staff are exceptionally good at using this interest to extend their mathematical knowledge and provide challenge for the youngest children. They confidently count how many they have, going past 10 with ease. They recognise

the quantity and can add two more or take one away.

- Managers are inspiring and care deeply that all children receive the very best. They continually seek to improve staff's teaching skills through rigorous performance management. Managers regularly observe staff and help them reflect on their strengths and ways to improve. Training is carefully targeted at developing essential skills, for example the best ways to support children's language development.
- Staff constantly emphasise being kind and having a respect for each other. They are excellent role models, showing children how to be helpful and take care of each other. Older children love to help pour a drink for others. They readily help younger children do things, such as finding cutlery at mealtimes.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive excellent support. Staff work very closely with parents and professionals, such as the physiotherapist. Staff work exceptionally hard to include children in all activities and to meet all aspects of their needs. Staff are also teaching the children to sign so that they can communicate with children who may not be able to speak.
- Staff are extremely aware of children's individual needs and know exactly what experiences they need to enhance their learning. Children who do not have gardens at home love the experience of being outside, planting seeds and watching things grow. Staff enthusiastically encourage babies who have fewer experiences of climbing to have a go. They quickly master climbing the stairs to the large slide.
- Staff place great importance on working closely with parents. They take care to make sure parents know about their child's day and what they have been learning. Parents are highly involved in their child's learning and contribute to assessments and decisions about what their child needs to do next. Parents speak highly of the staff and really appreciate the care taken to build close relationships with their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are given a high priority in this setting. The manager and staff get to know families exceptionally well. They are highly alert to changes in circumstances which may put children at risk of harm. The manager has rigorous systems in place to ensure that any concerns are recorded and reported correctly. Staff are very confident in recognising possible signs of abuse and are very clear on how to report their concerns. All staff can readily identify factors which may point to children being in contact with radical and extreme activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316388
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10073589
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 5
Total number of places	43
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	Happy Days Sunnyside Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909670
Telephone number	01604 842866
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

Happy Days Nursery registered in 2005 and is located in Northampton. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3, 4 and 6. The manager holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, apart from Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Judith Chinnery

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a learning walk around the nursery with the manager to understand how it operates and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector spoke with staff, managers and children during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2020