

Rainbow Day Nursery

Westgate Primary School, Summerhill Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 2LP



Inspection date	30 October 2018
Previous inspection date	6 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The monitoring and evaluation process is not effective in ensuring management is promoting more highly skilled teaching practices and effective routines, to increase the potential to achieve and maintain excellent outcomes for all children.
- The arrangements for tracking children's progress do not precisely identify their next steps in learning, to support staff to plan more precisely to improve the outcomes for children.
- At times, staff do not make consistent use of opportunities to support and encourage children's independence skills, and enable them to make choices and do things for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make greater use of the monitoring and evaluation processes to assist in promoting more effective teaching practices and routines, and to help achieve good outcomes for all children
- improve the systems for tracking children's progress, to help identify more precise next steps in learning and help children achieve their full potential
- make the most of and improve the opportunities to develop children's independence further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises. She observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and children's learning records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector checked the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Mary Van De Peer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The managers have identified some weaknesses to address in the educational programmes they provide. However, the monitoring of practice and children's progress is not clear enough to help ensure staff have a secure understanding of each child's learning needs. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. They show an appropriate awareness of what action to take if allegations are made about themselves or others. The provider follows robust recruitment procedures to help ensure staff's suitability. Staff review their own progress and unit leaders are responsible for their playroom organisation. The managers meet with them to discuss their work with children. However, these meetings are not consistently focused and effective at monitoring staff's practice and the effectiveness of setting routines, to make changes that may have a positive impact on children's learning. There are close relationships with parents and their comments are positive about the nursery provision. They confirm that their children enjoy attending.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children play happily with the activities and resources made available to them. However, the quality of teaching varies. Staff do not consistently make the best use of their observations and assessments to help them precisely track children's progress. For example, at times, activities are not planned effectively enough to challenge children more. On occasions, staff display good teaching practices. For instance, they encourage children in their physical and role-play development. There are small-world figures and art and craft materials to help build on children's creative and imaginative skills. Older children are encouraged to learn to recognise the sounds and names of letters. Younger children enjoy exploring the sand, and they use it in different ways. Children enjoy mixing and measuring in the mud kitchen and bury and find objects. This helps them develop problem-solving skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from outdoor play and exercise, which contributes to them developing good physical skills. For example, older children use slides and ride-on toys with relative ease. Younger children and babies are able to enjoy and develop good coordination skills. They play with simple construction activities, learn to negotiate space and move around safely. However, staff do not consistently encourage children's independence. Opportunities are missed for children to carry out small tasks, for example, at snack and meal times, such as to help lay the tables, decide where to sit and serve themselves with food they choose.

Outcomes for children are good

Children do not consistently make good enough progress to reach their full potential. However, overall, children gain the skills they need to move on to school. Children with special educational needs benefit from some extra support to help them catch up. Children communicate their wants and needs in different ways. They are developing some understanding of the natural world and mathematical skills. They enjoy reading books with staff and listening to stories in small groups.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127485
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10071465
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 - 10
Total number of places	124
Number of children on roll	161
Name of registered person	Rainbow Day Nursery (Early Years Centre) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903453
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2014
Telephone number	01322 270909

Rainbow Day Nursery registered in 1985. The nursery employs 33 members of staff, of whom 23 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery is open each weekday from 6.45am to 6pm, all year round. It runs a breakfast and after-school club and a holiday club during all school holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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