

Inspection of Dicky Birds Pre School Nurseries Ltd – Durham Road

12-14 Durham Road, LONDON SW20 0TW

Inspection date: 2 November 2021

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and settle quickly on arrival. They receive a warm welcome from staff, which supports their emotional well-being effectively. The strong bonds that children form with their key person and other staff further help them to feel safe and secure at nursery.

Overall, staff have high expectations for all children. This supports children to have positive attitudes towards their learning. Babies delight in exploring shaving foam and dry sand during sensory play. Older children concentrate well as they make an aeroplane collage and mix paints using pipettes.

Children are becoming independent learners. For instance, they try very hard to put on their own coat. Children enjoy opportunities to explore the outdoors. They practise their large-muscle skills well, such as when riding age-appropriate tricycles. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For instance, older children tell their peers to slow down when they ride the wheeled toys 'because there are children around'.

Staff promote clear and consistent boundaries to encourage children's positive behaviour. They give children lots of praise and encouragement throughout the day, such as when children share and take turns. Children gain good levels of confidence in their abilities.

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

- Staff observe and assess children's learning regularly. They implement a clear and ambitious curriculum that, overall, gives children the knowledge and skills they need for the next stage in their education. Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points.
- The management team offers staff good levels of support and professional development. Recent training has improved staff's understanding of how to observe and assess children's learning more effectively. Overall, children benefit from a wide range of purposeful and interesting activities. However, some activities for older children, particularly those taking place just before lunchtime, are not always planned well enough to sustain their engagement. This, occasionally, leads to children losing focus and does not promote their learning to the highest level.
- Passionate staff work effectively with other professionals, who are also involved in children's education and care. This enables staff to assist children, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, to catch up quickly in their learning.

- Parents are, generally, happy with the care and learning their children receive. They find that their children are well cared for and supervised appropriately. However, some parents would like to see an increase in communication to further enhance their children's learning in nursery and at home.
- Staff develop children's communication and language skills well. They use effective strategies, such as providing commentary to young children's play. This motivates children to repeat words which helps to develop their speech. Staff make good use of nursery stories and songs to widen children's vocabulary.
- Staff teach children about the importance of good oral hygiene. For instance, during activities, they teach children how to brush their teeth and keep them healthy. Staff engage children in discussions to help them make healthy choices around food.
- Children's behaviour is good. They learn to play cooperatively with or alongside their peers. For example, younger children share toys and are starting to say 'thank you' when they are given something.
- Children of all ages gain a positive view of diversity. They take part in various cultural and religious beliefs, such as Christmas, Eid and Diwali. Children learn about their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people.
- The curriculum for mathematics is effective. Staff incorporate counting into children's activities and spontaneous play. Children learn to count from one to five and beyond.
- The management team evaluates the quality of the setting regularly. A recent focus on outdoor play has had a positive impact on children's overall learning and development. Children develop their health through regular exercise and active play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team follows robust procedures to check staff's suitability to work with children. Staff attend regular safeguarding training. They demonstrate a sound understanding of the indicators of possible abuse, including if a child is at risk of being exposed to extremist views or behaviours. There are clear procedures for reporting safeguarding concerns to relevant agencies. Staff create a safe and secure environment for children to play and learn in. They risk assess the premises to minimise hazards to children. Staff deployment is effective. Children receive good levels of supervision to help keep them safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to plan more effectively for children's transitions, enabling them to remain focused and engaged

- develop further the information sharing with parents, including ways on how they can support their children better in nursery and at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY465156
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	10128532
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	101
Number of children on roll	131
Name of registered person	Dicky Birds Pre-School Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902359
Telephone number	02089425779
Date of previous inspection	7 April 2014

Information about this early years setting

Dicky Birds Pre School Nurseries Ltd – Durham Road registered in 2013 and it is located in the London Borough of Merton. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. There are 39 staff members; of these, one holds a post graduate certificate in education and 25 hold relevant childcare qualifications from level 2 to level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held meetings with the management team and discussed leadership and management matters.
- Interactions between staff and children were observed throughout the inspection.
- Required documents, such as staff's training certificates, and policies and procedures were scrutinised.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the manager across all areas of the setting to understand the setting's curriculum and how staff implement this. They carried out a joint observation of an activity and evaluated the impact this has on children.
- Parents talked to the inspector and shared their views on the setting.

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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