

Inspection of Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Otley

The Old Surgery, Westgate, Otley LS21 3DT

Inspection date: 4 November 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show that they feel happy, safe and settled in every room of the nursery. They develop strong bonds with staff and their care needs are met effectively. For example, staff prepare sleeping areas for babies with their comfort items from home. They follow babies' individual routines and know them very well. This has a positive impact on children's emotional well-being. Staff have high expectations for all children who attend. Toddlers thoroughly enjoy activities outdoors. Staff encourage them to talk about what might happen to the water in the pipes. Older children demonstrate a good knowledge of festivals and celebrations. Staff help them to develop their understanding of the wider world and people beyond their own community further.

Since the last inspection, the provider has strengthened the management team and raised the quality of care and learning for children. Staff have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that children's needs are met. They continue to evaluate the provision to maintain high standards. For example, staff focus on supporting toddlers to develop their physical skills and communication. Older children are encouraged to make choices about their learning. This has had a positive impact on children's levels of concentration and their behaviour is very positive. In addition, staff have responded to children's emerging needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. They regularly take children into the community and local area, which has helped to rebuild their confidence in social situations.

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

- The curriculum is challenging, coherent and stimulating for children. Staff regularly gather information from parents about their children's knowledge and interests. They use this to accurately assess children's stages of development and provide exciting activities to help them to make good progress. For example, babies and young children show enjoyment as they make marks with chalk and paint. Staff encourage them to draw big circles and develop their physical skills. Older children further develop their small physical skills and begin to write numerals and words.
- Staff help children to develop good social skills and self-confidence. For instance, they sit with babies, and sing nursery rhymes and model the actions. Babies show delight as they join in with favourite songs. Toddlers learn the names of others in their group. Older children are encouraged to put their hands up and take turns in conversation. However, on occasion, some groups are too large for all children to join in and take an active part.
- The manager provides support to staff and inspires them to take pride in their roles. For example, she regularly completes learning walks and observations with staff to help them to reflect on their practice. Staff talk confidently about their

group of children and are proud of the changes they have made. For instance, they contact local teachers to discuss how they can help older children to develop the skills that they need to prepare them for school.

- Staff say they feel valued and happy in the nursery. The manager prioritises staff's well-being and provides one-to-one meetings for them to discuss any issues. For instance, she has recently looked at how staff's work and life balance can improve, and gathered their views on this. New staff say that they feel welcomed and are happy with the induction process. They have recently developed their knowledge of the revised early years foundation stage and made changes to reduce the pressures of unnecessary paperwork for staff. This means that staff have more time to spend with children and provide better quality learning experiences.
- Children benefit from regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They thoroughly enjoy spending time in the garden and develop good physical skills. Staff encourage children to try a wide range of healthy food and are aware of any allergies or dietary requirements. Children wash their hands thoroughly indoors to promote good hygiene. However, there are times when this is not consistent outdoors, specifically when older children have their snack around the campfire.
- The manager and staff team develop and maintain effective partnerships to promote continuity for children. For instance, they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities effectively and work towards targets alongside parents and other professionals. Parents are very happy and leave positive feedback for the staff. They feel their children have 'hit many developmental milestones with staff' and the 'care provided for children is amazing'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager is aware of her responsibilities as the lead safeguarding officer for the nursery. She provides staff with regular training opportunities to help them maintain a heightened awareness of child protection issues. Staff are confident in discussing the procedures to follow if they identify concerns about children's welfare. For example, they highlight the potential signs of neglect and understand the impact of domestic violence on children. Staff know how to record and report concerns swiftly. The manager provides staff and families with clear risk assessments and procedures to follow in response to the pandemic. This helps to minimise the spread of the virus and keep children safe. Staff help children to learn about their own safety. For example, they talk about safety around fires and with fireworks.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider ways to enhance group times so that all children can take an active part and benefit fully from learning experiences
- provide consistent messages to children about the importance of good hygiene, particularly during outdoor snack times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY549089
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10132943
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Diane's Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP549088
Telephone number	01943 969602
Date of previous inspection	20 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Otley registered in 2017. The nursery employs 12 members of staff. The majority of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including the manager. Two members of staff hold a relevant early years degree and one has early years professional status. The nursery opens all year round from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for a week at Christmas. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation was completed by the manager and inspector, outdoors during a planned activity.
- The inspector held a discussion with the nursery manager in relation to the leadership and management of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of recruitment, staff's qualifications and their suitability to work with children. She discussed children's learning and development with the staff team and nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and obtained their feedback for the inspection.

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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