

Inspection of The Treehouse Forestry Nursery And Out Of School Club

The Treehouse Nursery, Dollymans Farm, Doublegate Lane, Wickford, Essex SS11 8UD

Inspection date: 20 January 2022

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	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, parents drop their children at the gate. Staff are there to greet the children and implement additional hygiene routines. Children interact warmly with staff and show they feel valued, safe, and secure. They enjoy learning as they engage in familiar activities with enthusiasm. For example, younger children thoroughly enjoy 'baby yoga'. They listen attentively to staff, following instructions as they copy various stretches. Children learn a wide range of movements that help them develop greater control of their bodies. There is a strong emphasis on communication and children expand their vocabulary as they repeat unfamiliar words during activities or join in with familiar stories.

Children develop independence, such as putting on their coats and wellingtons before going outside. They are supported to toilet train and establish good hygiene routines. During mealtimes, children enjoy taking part in conversation, with each other, about the vegetables they are eating. Children's behaviour is good. They respond positively to staff and their peers. For example, children show concern when they notice a child is sitting alone. They encourage them to join in activities, promoting a happy and caring environment. Children make good progress from their various starting points.

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

- The key-person system is managed well. This ensures children have a familiar member of staff and parents are regularly updated about the progress their children make.
- Parents speak highly of staff and managers. They feel that communication is good and understand the various policies and procedures that are implemented to help keep their children safe. Parents appreciate the outdoor play opportunities and local walks that help their children to lead healthy lifestyles.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. Staff work with parents and other professionals involved in children's care. This helps to ensure that their needs are met.
- Staff throughout the nursery understand that the activities they provide help children embed skills that can be used to support the next steps in their learning and development. Staff also work with other adults, such as those at the primary schools children will eventually move on to. Children who are moving on to school take part in activities and discussion groups to help them prepare.
- Staff work hard to ensure that children develop new skills, based on what they already know and can do. They provide opportunities for children to practise and explore their ideas until they feel secure in their understanding. Younger children enjoy exploring large construction pieces. Older children practise hand-eye coordination as they pick up small items using tweezers, which they then move

them from one bowl to another.

- Staff ensure they regularly share information with parents. This is achieved through telephone calls and via an electronic online information system. This enables parents to know what their children are learning and support this further at home.
- Children are beginning to learn about the world around them. However, opportunities to explore cultural differences are not always best supported to help children understand the diversity within their local community.
- Staff speak highly of the management team. They feel valued and very well supported regarding their well-being. Those staff new to the nursery confirm that the induction process helps to prepare them for work in the nursery. Ongoing support is provided through supervision meetings and there is good attention to ensuring mandatory training remains up to date. However, some staff have not received targeted training to support them in taking on specific roles and responsibilities.
- Risk assessments are in place and daily checks are made to ensure that the nursery remains secure and that all child accessible areas are safe.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are implemented to check the suitability of staff working with children. The managers and staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through training, discussions, and staff meetings. Staff confidently identify the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm from abuse or neglect. Staff understand how to report child protection concerns and how to follow the whistle-blowing procedure if they have a concern about the practice of a colleague. Children are well supervised, as staff are deployed well.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make certain that staff have appropriate training and knowledge when taking on specific roles and responsibilities
- increase opportunities for children to learn and celebrate similarities and differences between themselves and those in their community.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540614
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10205737
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	72
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	The Tree House Premier Child Care Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532829
Telephone number	01277 656921
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

The Treehouse Forestry Nursery And Out Of School Club registered in 2016 and is one of five settings run by the same limited company. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are between 7am and 7pm. They also provide a term time only pre-school that operates Monday to Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm and children can attend for one or all of the three daily sessions. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Clements

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 managers, and this has been considered in their evaluation of the setting.
- The managers and inspector completed a learning walk of the nursery, inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the deputy manager.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing in the nursery.
- Parents and staff spoke with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the suitability checks of all adults working in the nursery.

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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