

Inspection of Busy Bees Day Nursery at Birmingham Dartmouth Circus

Richard Street, Aston, Birmingham, West Midlands B7 4AA

Inspection date: 1 March 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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are very happy and settle well at this warm and welcoming nursery. They demonstrate that they feel valued, safe and secure. Children develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They are eager to play and learn. Children develop strong language skills and communicate well with adults and their friends.

Children benefit from a wide range of exciting experiences. They enjoy activities that are tailored to their current likes and interests. Older children learn about cause and effect as they free their favourite superheroes from blocks of ice. They recognise that their warm hands will melt the ice and squeal with delight as the superheroes are released.

Younger children enjoy sensory materials. The children learn new words, such as 'rough, smooth' and 'squashy', as they explore a variety of materials. Children of all ages make marks with various media, including pencils, paint and chalk. This helps them to develop the skills they need for early writing. Children learn to take turns. They play card games and participate in other activities, where they patiently wait for their turn. However, children do not always receive consistent support from staff to know what is expected of them regarding the rules and boundaries in place at nursery.

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

- Leaders have developed a strong educational programme. The manager is clear about what children in each age group need to learn and how to support children with special education needs and/or disabilities. Staff plan around children's likes and interests, which helps to engage children in learning. Overall, children make good progress, and some children are exceeding expected levels. However, leaders do not monitor children's learning at the highest level. At times, staff do not identify or focus their teaching accurately enough on what individual children need to learn next, to support more rapid progress.
- Staff receive good support from leaders. The manager provides regular supervision for staff to consider their training needs and develop their practice. Staff attend separate well-being meetings with the manager. She ensures that they are supported and that they have a manageable workload and feel well. Staff are happy in their roles and morale is high. This contributes to the overall relaxed and friendly atmosphere throughout the nursery.
- Parent partnership is very strong. Staff work in close partnership with parents to promote children's learning and continuity in care. Various strategies are in place to inform and support parents, such as newsletters, online applications, activities to complete at home and daily conversations at the nursery door. Parents are extremely happy with the care provided.

- Staff place a high focus on children's health and well-being. For example, daily yoga sessions help children to relax, rest and develop their physical skills. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise in the outdoor area. The dedicated nursery chef provides a range of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks.
- Children receive good support to develop their literacy and communication skills. Staff regularly share stories with children in groups or individually. Children enjoy moving their bodies and singing along to action songs and nursery rhymes. Staff consistently talk to children, ask them questions and engage them in conversations. Staff working with the youngest children skilfully model and repeat words to encourage early language development.
- Staff promote children's personal, social and emotional development well. Children form close bonds with staff and their peers. Younger children show their affection by seeking out familiar staff for cuddles and one-to-one activities. Staff provide plenty of reassurance and praise for children to build their self-esteem. Children are developing independence. For example, they tidy away toys, set the tables for lunch and collect their own meals.
- Children behave well. They are polite and well mannered. However, not all staff follow a consistent approach to support children to follow the rules and boundaries in place at nursery. For example, some staff remind children to use 'walking feet' inside while other staff ignore children who run. This means children do not always understand or learn what is expected of them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues. They know who to contact if they have any concerns about a child's safety and welfare. The manager ensures that all staff frequently attend safeguarding training to update their knowledge. Staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities around safeguarding, including broader safeguarding issues. Staff maintain a safe environment for children. They complete thorough risk assessments to help ensure that the areas of the premises are safe and suitable. The manager implements safe recruitment procedures. This includes carrying out appropriate checks to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff working at the nursery.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- monitor children's learning more precisely and support staff to identify and focus more accurately on what individual children need to learn next
- provide support for staff to develop a consistent approach to helping children understand what is expected of them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	229181
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10229207
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	77
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900821
Telephone number	0121 333 3733
Date of previous inspection	1 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Birmingham Dartmouth Circus registered in 1997 and is part of the Busy Bees nursery chain. The provider employs 20 members of childcare staff. One member of staff holds a level 6 qualification and 18 staff are qualified at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Trisha Turney

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 conducted a leadership and management meeting with the manager and members of the Busy Bees leadership team.
- The manager completed a learning walk with the inspector, where they discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager where they evaluated the quality of teaching and practice together.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day and from written comments provided by parents.

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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