

Inspection of Eastfields Nursery

Culford School, Culford, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, Suffolk IP28 6TX

Inspection date: 10 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are well settled, relaxed and happy. They demonstrate their close emotional attachments to staff. Children readily climb on their laps for cuddles and to share stories together. They point to the pictures of the mermaid in the book and compare their hair colours with their friends. Other children use their senses as they investigate natural resources. They independently explore the textures of shells before giving one to each of the staff in the room.

Children enjoy jumping in puddles as they walk to the woodland area for a forest school session. Staff introduce new words, such as 'squelchy', as they discuss the feel of the forest floor. Children sit on logs as they join in with the interactive story of 'Room on the Broom'. Staff invite children to create their own 'magic potions' in the forest. They mix together water and 'magic' powder, and explore their creation using their hands. Children learn to take risks as they climb on the logs, holding adults' hands for support. Other children demonstrate curiosity and wonder as they eagerly search the forest undergrowth. Children use their imagination as they find smooth pebbles; they eagerly explain to staff that it is a 'dinosaur egg'.

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

- Children benefit from a wealth of exciting opportunities, such as weekly forest school sessions, ballet, music, and movement sessions. These activities help children to learn about the natural world around them and to be creative, as well as supporting their physical well-being. As a result, children are keen and motivated to learn.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff support children to follow instructions. They work together to tidy up before having lunch. Children thrive on the positive praise and encouragement staff offer. This helps to build their self-esteem and confidence. When children become tired and upset, staff are on hand to soothe and distract them.
- Children are offered a well-balanced and healthy diet. Clear procedures are implemented to ensure the safety of those children who have additional dietary requirements. Mealtimes are a sociable time within the nursery. Children learn about good eating habits as staff show them how to use cutlery correctly.
- Staff gather detailed information from parents to establish children's starting points before they join the nursery. This helps them to plan meaningful learning experiences that capture children's interests across the seven areas of learning. Staff know the children well and confidently talk about where they are in their learning.
- Staff help to extend children's vocabulary by building on the words children use. For example, when a child uses single words, staff repeat the word back, adding extra words into the sentence. This helps very young children to develop their

understanding of how words link together to make a sentence. Older children benefit from two-way conversations. Staff ask the children questions and engage in meaningful conversations as they play and explore. However, staff have not yet explored further opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to hear and use their home language in their play and learning.

- Parents praise the quality of care and education their children receive. They comment that their children are happy to attend and make good progress. Parents appreciate the notifications they receive about their child's day through an online platform. They comment that the nursery 'goes that extra mile' with the activities and experiences that they provide their children. Parents know what their children are learning and how they can support their learning at home.
- Leadership and management are good. The manager has a clear vision of what children need to learn. She reflects well on the quality of practice and is constantly looking at ways to improve. She ensures that all staff benefit from training to develop their knowledge and skills. Staff have the opportunity to share new knowledge with other staff. For example, when a staff member completes a Makaton sign language course, they make individual 'sign cards' for each room in the nursery to use. This helps to improve the consistency of teaching throughout the nursery.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding is rooted in the heart of this nursery. The designated safeguarding lead has a secure knowledge and understanding of their role. There is an effective recruitment procedure in place to ensure that those working with children are safe to do so. All staff receive safeguarding training and the manager provides quizzes to test their knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. Staff have a good knowledge of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. They have a good awareness of the indicators of abuse and know how to report concerns. There is an effective whistle-blowing procedure to ensure that staff know how to report concerns about colleagues.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen opportunities for all children who speak English as an additional language to develop and use their home language.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY556624
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10174840
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	1 to 3
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Culford School (Trading Trust) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP556623
Telephone number	01284 385355
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Eastfields Nursery registered in 2018. It operates on the site of Culford School in Culford, Suffolk. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Shelly McDougall

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 manager joined the inspector on a learning walk. They talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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