

Inspection of The WonderWorks @ Leavesden

Suite 1, Building 6, Leavesden Park, Hercules Way, Watford, Hertfordshire WD25
7GS

Inspection date: 11 March 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 enjoy their time in this welcoming nursery. They settle quickly and display high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They develop warm and caring relationships with staff and from a young age develop friendships with each other. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Children engage in a wide range of stimulating and enjoyable experiences. They particularly enjoy the outdoor environment, which provides wonderful opportunities for them to use their imaginations, exploring the many different areas. Children learn about nature as they happily search for insects and build spider houses in the undergrowth. They gather water in their watering cans from the drainpipe waterfall, to put out 'the fire'. Children develop their physical skills and build confidence, as they negotiate and balance on the rope bridge or the tyre swing. Younger children develop their small-muscle control, as they concentrate on pinching and popping bubble wrap. They are surprised and delighted with their achievement.

Children's behaviour is good. They know the routines and play well together. Staff consistently praise children which enhances their sense of belonging and gives them a sense of pride and achievement. Toddlers learn to share toys and negotiate as they play with the activities. Older children recognise when to wait and take turns. They are kind and help each other to take part when playing together.

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

- Staff develop a broad and balanced curriculum, which considers children's interest and next steps. Staff create a positive and purposeful environment to ensure children make good progress developing skills for their move to school. Children are inquisitive learners who show good levels of motivation and concentration.
- The quality of teaching across the setting is good. Staff use information gained from their observations and assessments to accurately identify the next steps in children's learning. However, on occasion, some activities are not planned as well as they could be. As a result, some children do not fully benefit from the experience.
- Children learn to keep themselves safe, as they carefully focus and concentrate when using a small hammer and nails to complete a picture. They recognise the colours of different pieces of wood and the shape and size needed to replicate a design. Staff skilfully support their learning by asking if they need a shorter or longer piece and counting the number of nails. They encourage children to use their vocabulary to explain what they are doing.
- Children learn about good hygiene and healthy eating, as they prepare the snack

fruits for all children. They carefully wash their hands to prevent the spread of germs and place a net hat on their head to prevent any hair falling into food. Children develop their communication and language skills, as they cheerfully talk with staff about different fruits and how these grow, and that the tomato is the only fruit that grows in the ground. Staff introduce mathematical language as children cut the fruits into quarters and halves and count the pieces of banana and pear. Children learn about recycling, placing their used hats in the correct bin.

- Staff promote children's independence throughout the day. Children carefully fill their water glass to manageable levels and are gently reminded by staff how to use cutlery. They skilfully serve themselves at mealtimes and tidy away their used plates when they have finished. Children, including toddlers, know the daily routines and put on their coats and wellies before going to play outdoors.
- Children expand their love of literacy. They listen and eagerly take part in story times and happily choose books throughout the day to sit and look through.
- Staff build strong relationships with parents. They speak highly about the service and communication they receive from the nursery and are extremely pleased with the progress their child makes.
- The manager supports staff effectively through supervision meetings and observations of their practice. Staff can access online training. However, some staff are less confident in aspects of their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a clear understanding of their safeguarding roles. They confidently describe the possible signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and understand how to report any concerns to the relevant agency in a timely manner. Staff complete regular training to ensure their safeguarding knowledge and skills remain up to date. This includes the wider safeguarding issues, such as extremism and radicalisation. Directors and managers have a rigorous recruitment and induction process in place. This ensures safeguarding procedures and information are securely embedded in staff's knowledge from the start.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider the interests of all children during activities to enhance their enjoyment and engagement in their learning
- continue to sharply focus training to support staff to grow in confidence and further develop their knowledge and skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2594595
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10230787
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	1 to 5
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Ready Set Play Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2594593
Telephone number	02034274270
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The WonderWorks @ Leavesden registered in 2020. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, with occasional weekend care if needed. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lorraine Sunter

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 and manager completed a learning walk to discuss the 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 spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was completed with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022