

Inspection of Activetime Children's Activities Day Nursery Ltd

Cadet Centre, Elmgrove Road, Harrow HA1 2QA

Inspection date: 27 May 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 happy, confident and settled in this warm and homely environment. They form a strong bond with staff from the outset. They show big smiles as their key persons greet them at the gate. Older children independently walk into nursery, while younger children seek comfort and reassurance from familiar staff. Children benefit from an ambitious curriculum that helps them to develop their social skills and learn to be independent. For instance, they select their own bottle to drink and serve their own healthy snacks using spoons and bowls. Furthermore, older children assist younger children with choosing a chair and sitting down.

Children listen attentively and follow simple instructions as they take part in group activities. For example, they eagerly use a ruler to draw their own Big Ben after learning about the city where they live. Staff place a high emphasis on supporting children's communication skills. Staff provide regular and spontaneous opportunities to read stories with children and sing nursery rhymes. For example, younger children dance to songs and ask staff to repeat them again using the key word 'more'. Older children enjoy asking questions about stories and share their opinions with the group. This has a positive impact on children's emerging communication and language skills.

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

- Children display good behaviour and respect each other. Staff are positive role models and sensitive to children's individual needs. They consistently encourage children to use good manners and give clear guidance to help them to understand right from wrong. For example, staff encourage children to share resources and explain why, by labelling different emotions and describing how they feel. This fosters children's social skills, self-esteem and confidence.
- Leaders use early years pupil premium and inclusion funding effectively to benefit individual children. For example, they invited a 'petting zoo' to provide opportunities for children to experience the wider world.
- The manager is passionate about outcomes for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Leaders are knowledgeable about their role to help children to make the best possible progress. They work collaboratively with other professionals, implementing the targets they set. Staff carefully plan regular small-group or one-to-one times, where higher staff-to-child ratios are maintained. As a result, children are supported well in their learning and their needs are met effectively.
- Staff know their key children well and have high expectations for all children. They accurately observe and assess what children can do, and what they need to do to promote their continuing progress. Children's next steps in learning are then identified and weaved into the planning. However, staff do not plan some

routines for older children as effectively. For instance, at times, children are not able to fully engage in their learning. This becomes apparent when a group of children walk into a room loudly while another group of children are listening to a story intently.

- Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well. For example, when children are settling in, staff gather key words and phrases in children's home languages. This helps children to settle quicker and staff to understand what children want.
- Parents speak highly of the nursery. They receive regular updates about their children's day and development. Staff share learning ideas with parents to support their children's learning at home. In addition, parents contribute the information of children's achievements at home, which helps staff to plan challenging activities for children to progress even further. Parents comment that their children are extremely happy in their care.
- Overall, leaders manage the setting effectively. Staff have completed all required training, such as child protection training. They additionally attend some useful online courses and webinars to support them in their individual role. However, leaders have not yet established a system to identify gaps in staff's teaching skills. This occasionally impacts on children's learning and development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility in protecting and safeguarding children. All staff have undertaken safeguarding training and know the signs that a child may be suffering from harm or abuse. They are confident with the procedures to follow and how to work in partnership with the local authority if they had a concern about a child. Managers have policies and procedures in place to keep children safe. The providers follow robust recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable and safe to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- embed coaching and supervision arrangements for staff to ensure ongoing support is in place and raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- support staff to review and plan children's transitions between activities and the daily routines so that children can remain focused and engaged.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY558330
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	10175177
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	44
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Activetime Children's Activities Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530637
Telephone number	0208 863 4154
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Activetime Children's Activities Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2018 and is situated in the London Borough of Harrow. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and two weeks over Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It also operates a breakfast- and after-school club.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Yuko Utsumi

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 their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- 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 observed the interactions between staff and children.
- 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.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff 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.

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