

Inspection of Small World Nursery (Watford) CIC

22 Tolpits Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 6AA

Inspection date: 31 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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 to arrive at this friendly nursery. The dedicated manager and enthusiastic room leaders are waiting to greet children. They chat about the plans for the day and the exciting activities available. For example, children are excited to make crowns in the pre-school room. They tell visitors that they will wear them for their platinum jubilee party the next day. Children of all ages behave exceptionally well in the nursery and are respectful towards each other. Older children offer one another help in tasks, such as tidying up. Toddlers are willing to take turns and share in activities. For example, when children are setting up a drawing activity, they self-select boxes of crayons and pencils and share them out among their friends.

Children display impeccable manners. They thank staff for meals and snacks without being prompted. Staff are wonderful role models. They consistently demonstrate high levels of respect towards children and adults. Children feel safe in this warm environment. They form exceptionally close relationships with their nurturing key staff. For example, when babies are unsettled before naps, staff are skilled at soothing them. They gently rock them in their arms and sing their favourite songs. Older children demonstrate equally close bonds. They cuddle up to staff for stories and seek them out for affection when tired.

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

- Staff consistently measure the impact of their teaching on children's learning. Older children discuss previous learning during small-group time. They proudly recall interesting facts about the Queen. Toddlers enjoy exploring their 'room books' with staff. They look through the pictures of past activities and discuss what they remember.
- Staff sequence children's learning well and adapt activities to support the needs of all children. For example, children are investigating minibeasts. Toddlers explore the texture of the soil. They delight in uncovering the hidden insects with their hands. Older children use magnifying glasses to examine and describe the various features of insects.
- Relationships between families and staff are strong. Managers establish highly effective methods of two-way communication. This supports families in extending children's learning at home. All parents speak highly of managers and staff. They value the close bonds they form with children and how this supports their development.
- Children of all ages demonstrate high levels of curiosity in activities. Babies delight at the various sensory baskets they explore. Toddlers are curious about the new colours they make in painting activities. Pre-school children listen intently when discussing the life cycle of the tadpoles they are looking after.
- Managers reflect well on the nursery and the care they offer. They are swift to

identify areas where they can provide additional support for children. For example, since the COVID-19 pandemic, managers established an additional room for two- and three-year-old children. They recognise the need to further support children's emotional and social development, prior to them moving to the pre-school room.

- Staff support children's independence in age-appropriate ways. For example, pre-school children put on their own coats and shoes and pour their own drinks throughout the day. Toddlers skilfully use cutlery and wipe their own faces with flannels after meals. Children are well prepared for the next stage of learning.
- Managers and staff place a sharp focus on children's language development. The setting adopts various age-appropriate reading initiatives. Staff interact well with children of all ages. Staff talk babies through their daily routines, such as nappy changes. Toddlers learn new and descriptive words for the various resources they use during painting activities.
- Staff work well together, and their morale is good. The manager values the staff team and provides effective support, ensuring staff have regular opportunities for training. However, the leadership team have not yet fully explored all methods of coaching staff to help them develop a deeper knowledge of teaching and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Management and staff have a strong understanding of their role in keeping children safe. They are aware of the signs and symptoms which could indicate that a child is at risk of harm. Management and staff have strong knowledge of the process to follow when they have concerns about children, and the need to escalate these concerns in a timely manner. Staff complete daily, comprehensive risk assessments of all areas of the nursery to ensure it is safe for all children. The manager has robust recruitment and induction processes in place to ensure staff are suitable to work with children and understand their responsibilities to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on the already good practice and seek further ways to help all staff develop first-rate teaching skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2548006
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10215629
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	52
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Small World Nursery (Watford) CIC
Registered person unique reference number	2548005
Telephone number	01923 230300
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Small World Nursery (Watford) CIC registered in 2019. The nursery operates from 7.30am until 6pm from Monday to Friday. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Antonia Campbell

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 looked at relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability of all staff.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children during activities.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching to assess the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation of an activity to assess the quality of teaching.
- The inspector held discussions with staff about the monitoring of learning and development in the setting and tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector considered the views of parents by speaking to several during the inspection.

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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