

Inspection of Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery

Merlin House, 19 Villiers Road, SOUTHSEA, Hampshire PO5 2NR

Inspection date: 1 June 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children arrive at the nursery and excitedly run in to meet the welcoming and experienced staff. The inspirational team of staff know the children exceptionally well and have high expectations for every child. Children benefit from deep and meaningful interactions with staff. The staff's use of purposeful and thought-provoking questions helps children to challenge and extend their own learning. The childminder asks questions such as 'I wonder what if...' This encourages children to think and reflect on new ways to do things.

Children thrive in this very supportive and exciting environment. They are extremely motivated to learn and engage in an excellent range of stimulating activities. For example, children enthusiastically and independently make their own play dough from memory.

Children demonstrate excellent imagination skills. For example, in the woodwork area, they create resources such as a carriage for the Queen. They wear safety goggles as they work and explain the importance of being safe. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They know what is expected of them and follow rules well. For example, when it is time to tidy up, children stop what they are doing and help each other to tidy away the high-quality resources, thanking each other as they do so.

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

- Leadership and management are exceptional. The highly passionate, experienced manager puts children's well-being at the heart of all she does. She works alongside the staff team to provide excellent resources and plan exciting experiences to support children's learning.
- The manager is extremely reflective and evaluates the experiences they are providing to children at every opportunity. She continuously strives to develop the already excellent provision even further alongside her staff team.
- The manager has a rigorous training plan in place for staff so that they can constantly update their already excellent practice. For example, targeted training has helped staff to deepen their understanding of how to support children who have a speech and language delay. Staff use the knowledge they have learned, in their exemplary practice, such as giving children ample time to express their thoughts and feelings.
- Staff praise children enthusiastically for sharing resources and taking turns. For example, children wait for their turn on the extremely popular tree swings. They are aware of the need to stand back from the swings, so as not to get hurt. Children cheer for one another as they swing on the ropes and say, 'Yes, you did it,' as they achieve their aims.

- Parents are highly complimentary about the staff and the nursery. They talk about the wonderful communication and the detailed feedback they receive from staff. Parents are involved in every aspect of their child's learning. They are provided with inspirational ideas for home learning to support their child's development in the nursery.
- Staff constantly teach children how to be independent, to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. Children confidently enjoy choosing what fruits to add to their fruit kebabs at snack time. They competently use knives to cut their fruits to the right size.
- Children demonstrate excellent manners. For instance, they say 'please' and 'thank you' and ask to get down from the table when they have finished eating. Children show high levels of respect to the staff and their friends.
- Staff demonstrate excellent teaching to children. They are extremely knowledgeable about how children learn, and they use this to enrich their practice. For example, staff model new language, such as 'tighten' and 'vice' as children enthusiastically prepare a block of wood ready to create a model.
- Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make excellent progress. Staff work well with the special educational needs coordinator and other agencies to rapidly identify any gaps in children's development. They then provide excellent interventions to target those gaps.
- Staff provide children with unique and exciting opportunities to learn about the world around them. For example, children eagerly learn about the Queen's platinum jubilee. This culminates in a joyous parade to music from the 1940s as they wear their crowns with pride.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have an exceptional knowledge of how to keep children safe. They have an excellent understanding of the signs to look for that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. This includes a variety of safeguarding issues, such as internet safety. Staff are extremely confident in their knowledge and know how to report any concerns they may have. Regular team meetings give staff the opportunity to discuss current safeguarding issues and receive updates and training. Children learn how to keep themselves safe, for example by controlling their speed as they ride bikes down a slope in the garden.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY461909
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10228820
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	113
Name of registered person	Leapfrog Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908996
Telephone number	023 92 003125
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

Leapfrog Neighbourhood Nursery is one of two privately owned settings. It registered in 2013 and is located in Southsea, Portsmouth. The nursery employs 19 members of staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and those in receipt of early years pupil premium.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Clare Leake

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 nursery.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they intend for the children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- 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.

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