

Inspection of Lowen Harts Day Nursery

Lowen Harts Day Nursery, School Lane, REDRUTH, Cornwall TR15 2ER

Inspection date: 5 August 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children happily enter the nursery and are keen to explore. They are welcomed warmly by staff. Children have strong friendships and build trusting relationships with staff. Children feel safe within the nursery. They take measured risk supported by the staff. For example, staff support children doing outdoors big physical play, such as rolling tyres and climbing play equipment. One child said, 'Look I can do this now. I am not afraid,' showing real sense of achievement.

The environment is interesting and the children confidently explore it. Many of the activities are based on children's interests. For instance, there is a car wash, where the children independently clean their vehicles, and a birdwatching hut.

Since the pandemic, the manager has been focusing on communication and language, which supports children to make good progress. Staff use basic sign language throughout the nursery to aid children's communication. There are opportunities to learn about emotions, helping children to recognise and communicate how they are feeling. Children behave well. They confidently talk about what they are enjoying in the nursery and who their friends are.

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

- The manager has developed the curriculum taking into consideration the impact on children of the COVID-19 pandemic. Children's targets for development ensure that all children make good progress.
- Activities are varied and interesting and staff interact with children on their level. However, some staff's conversations with the older children are basic and need to develop further, to help provide a more enriched learning experience for the children.
- Staff sing throughout the day and the children join in with enthusiasm. The staff read books to the children and children eagerly listen. The children have access to books, both inside and outside, and they enjoy independently looking at these.
- Staff provide fresh vegetables in the role-play area to develop children's learning experiences. Children have opportunities to cut vegetables and learn about healthy eating.
- There are opportunities for children to develop mathematical concepts. Children describe 'less' and 'more' while making play dough, and count and use positional language.
- The nursery has pet fish and chickens in the garden and the children learn about caring and feeding the animals. This supports children to learn about the natural world.
- Staff promote children's independence within the nursery. For example, children

serve their own food and pour their own drinks at lunchtime.

- Staff are kind and affectionate towards children settling into the nursery. This ensures strong relationships between children and their key persons and supports children's well-being.
- Children's behaviour is good and staff encourage children to be kind to each other. However, at times, there are some inconsistencies in staff explaining rules that could be confusing for children. For example, children are given fidget toys and then asked not to play with them.
- Although the parents no longer enter the setting since the pandemic, parents still feel very well informed about their children's progress. Sharing information online supports this, along with regular parents' evenings and daily feedback.
- The nursery works in partnership with local schools to ensure a smooth transition. This is particularly strong for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This ensures children make good progress even after they have left the nursery.
- There is a highly qualified team at the nursery and staff continue to access training monthly. This aids development of the nursery environment and supports developing staff's practice.
- Staff receive regular effective supervisions and the manager carefully considers staff well-being and workload. This contributes to the staff being very happy working at the nursery, making it a pleasant environment for all.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and her team have a good understanding of how to protect children from harm. They know how to identify and report concerns. The manager and her team have done safeguarding training, which means their knowledge is up to date. All staff are trained in first aid. As a result of this, they know what to do in a medical emergency. There is a robust recruitment process in place to ensure suitability of staff. Daily checks are done in the nursery to ensure the nursery premises are safe and to reduce risks to children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop staff interactions with children further, to support and extend children's language and communication
- support staff so that they provide clear expectations for children around rules.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477708
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10214465
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Lowen Harts Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533681
Telephone number	01209211757
Date of previous inspection	22 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

Lowen Harts Day Nursery registered in 2014. The nursery is located in Redruth, Cornwall. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5.30pm, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. All staff hold relevant qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Elliott

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 and the inspector went on a learning walk and discussed how the setting and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector spoke with parents, who provided their views of the nursery.
- The inspector observed the nursery, including the outdoor areas, looking at quality of education.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation on an activity and evaluated practice.
- The management team discussed leadership 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.

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