

Inspection of Early Years Nursery

Swallowdale CP School, Dalby Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 0BJ

Inspection date: 26 September 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 Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show kindness to others, for example when they pass them a cup at snack time. They play cooperatively alongside their friends. Children are confident to introduce themselves to visitors, telling them that their favourite toys are cars. Children benefit from staff who know them well. For example, if children are quiet, staff quickly identify this and spend time talking to them and offering comfort until they develop in confidence. This supports children's emotional well-being and helps them to feel safe and secure. Children are independent, such as during mealtimes and snack times. They pour their drinks and help to wash up plates and cups when they have finished.

Staff understand how children progress. They plan experiences to help them experience nature. Children happily go with staff for walks around the host school's field. They collect sticks, feathers and leaves to bring back to the nursery to use in their artwork. They are creative when they use glue and natural resources to make pictures. Children are supported to develop their understanding of positional language. When children play with toy train tracks, staff talk about the train going 'over' and 'under' the bridge. The manager spends additional funding effectively to give children one-to-one time with staff, to meet their individual needs, for example to help develop their speaking skills.

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

- The manager works well alongside her staff team. She supports their teaching practice, for example, through discussions at supervision meetings. Staff have targets to help develop their practice. For instance, staff are given the responsibility to help children understand their emotions and how they are feeling. They research how to do this and use colours to help children to identify different feelings.
- When children who speak English as an additional language start attending the nursery, they are supported to have a sense of belonging. For example, staff find out key words and phrases in their home language and use these to communicate with them. Staff use pictures and visual prompts to help children to understand the routines in the day. For instance, they show children a nappy before they ask them if they can change them.
- Staff encourage children to develop an understanding of how to promote their good health. They help children to understand the importance of brushing their teeth. Staff talk to children about the healthy drinks they offer them at snack time. Children learn that milk helps their teeth and nails.
- Staff discuss the nursery rules and boundaries with children to help them to understand what is expected of them. For example, they remind children to listen during group times and to tidy up toys when they hear a bell. However,

staff do not fully support children to understand why these rules and boundaries are in place, to extend their knowledge further.

- The manager devises a curriculum that provides plentiful opportunities for children to develop their communication and language skills. This helps children with their future learning and their move on to school. Songs and rhymes are introduced into most daily activities and routines. For example, when children are outside in the rain, staff sing a song about it raining and pouring. When children join an activity, staff sing a song to welcome them to the group.
- The manager reflects on the experiences she offers children. She included the views of parents and children when making recent changes to the garden. For example, a new floor surface and equipment have been developed to offer children further opportunities for safe physical exercise. Children develop strength in their legs when they climb up ramps on large equipment. They develop the muscles in their hands when they copy staff to spin hoops around on the floor.
- Staff share information with parents about activities that all children enjoy in the nursery. Parents comment positively about their children's experiences. They say their children have developed in confidence and social skills. However, staff do not fully share information with parents about what their children need to learn next to support their progress and how they can complement this at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff carry out daily risk assessments to help ensure that the environment is safe for children. External doors and gates are securely fastened to stop other people from entering the premises. This helps to promote children's safety. Staff supervise children well, such as when they use scissors, to help keep children safe. The manager and staff understand their responsibilities to safeguard children. They know how to identify the signs and symptoms of abuse, including if children are being exposed to radicalisation or female genital mutilation. They know the procedures to follow to report concerns about a child's welfare, to promote their safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen staff's interactions with children to help them understand why rules and boundaries are in place
- support staff to give parents further information about their children's individual learning, to help them support their children's learning at home more precisely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY339717
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10138557
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Early Years Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903008
Telephone number	07535946656
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

Early Years Nursery registered in 2006. It is situated in the grounds of Swallowdale County Primary School, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire and is independently run from the school. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, one is unqualified, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, five hold qualifications at level 3, one holds a level 5 qualification, one holds a level 6 qualification, and one holds a level 7 qualification. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the nursery teacher completed a learning walk of all areas of the nursery with the inspector and discussed how they implement the curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and the nursery teacher.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- Parents shared their views on 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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