

Inspection of Pine Trees Childrens Day Nursery

The Essex Golf & Country Club, Airfield, Earls Colne, Colchester CO6 2NS

Inspection date: 1 December 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 thoroughly enjoy their time at this nursery. As they arrive, familiar staff greet them. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in the nursery. They confidently share their experiences with staff, who are keen to listen. Children tell staff that they have recently been to the zoo and seen a crocodile. Other children join in the conversation and share their stories. They talk about the crocodile's big teeth, and staff use this opportunity to talk to the children about the importance of looking after their own teeth.

Babies and young children enjoy mark making in a variety of ways. In the garden, they practise using their large muscles as they paint a wall with paintbrushes, reaching as high as they can. Inside, children enjoy exploring the texture of the paint as they feel it between their fingers. Staff encourage them to explore the resources as they paint their hands and print them on paper.

Young children collect bubbles on their hands and delight as they blow them back into the tray. Staff use descriptive words to support the children's language development, such as 'bubble', 'bounce', and 'pop'. Staff offer an abundance of praise and encouragement to help children build their confidence and boost their self-esteem.

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

- The manager is enthusiastic and has a clear vision to develop a strong staff team. She identifies where staff need more support, including training. The manager creates flashcards for staff to help embed knowledge of the wider safeguarding issues, such as breast ironing and witchcraft, that pose a risk to children.
- During the main part of the day, children benefit from a wide range of fun and interesting activities. For example, children use different-sized pom-poms to demonstrate the various sizes, big, medium and small. Younger children climb up the steps and go down the slide on the indoor climbing frame. However, at times of transition, such as early morning, children's play and learning can sometimes go unsupported, as there are too few staff to carry out additional roles, such as answering the door or telephone.
- Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities well. For example, they plan focused activities that support children who are learning to share and take turns in group times. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children's speech and language development is well promoted within the nursery. Staff help children to develop a love of books. They understand that repetition helps children to learn and choose books that support their interests.

Children engage well as they call out familiar words at the end of the sentences. Staff support younger children's speech through stories. They sing to them to support their learning. For example, they sing songs to toddlers as they wash their hands. As a result, children are confident talkers.

- Children are learning to have a positive attitude to early mathematics. Babies and toddlers start to learn basic shapes as they use shape blocks to paint and print. Older children are starting to learn the relationships between numbers as they play games in the garden. They learn that the number of fingers they hold up indicates the number of steps they can take forward towards the 'hungry wolf'.
- Children behave well. Staff have consistent expectations of their behaviour. When children disagree, staff have a calm approach to help children understand their emotions and how their behaviour may affect others.
- The manager has a clear idea of the skills that she wants children to learn before they move on to school. She explains that she wants children to develop their independence. However, sometimes, staff do too much for children, which limits these opportunities. For example, when children wish to role play with dressing-up clothes, staff dress them before giving them the opportunity to practise these skills first.
- Partnerships with parents are positive. Staff share information about children's daily care and learning with parents. Parents comment that they appreciate the support they receive from the staff and are pleased with the progress that their children are making.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding is at the heart of this nursery. The manager regularly tests staff's knowledge with quizzes to make sure they have an excellent understanding of wider safeguarding concerns, such as female genital mutilation. The staffing team have a good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard the children in their care. They know when and how to report concerns they have about a child in their care or about a colleague. Robust recruitment processes are in place to ensure that those working with children are safe to do so.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review planning of transitions, such as when children arrive, to provide a rich learning experience similar to that offered to children at all other times
- provide consistent opportunities for children to develop their independence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2707705
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10265782
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	69
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	Harp Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2707687
Telephone number	01787 221653
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Pine Trees Children's Day Nursery registered in 2022 and is situated in Earls Colne, Colchester. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Shelly McDougall

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.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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 spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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