

Inspection of Rainbow Day Nursery

409 Brant Road, Waddington, LINCOLN LN5 9AL

Inspection date: 9 January 2023

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 clearly enjoy their time in the nursery. When babies become slightly unsettled with visitors in the room, staff instantly offer them their favourite toy and they become calm. Toddlers are reluctant to leave the nursery when the time comes, as they are having so much fun. Pre-school children confidently speak to visitors and ask them their name. This shows children feel safe and secure.

Staff have high expectations of children of all ages. This is especially evident with the language and vocabulary staff use. Babies use their senses to explore different textures. Staff use words, such as curly and straight, when babies feel the texture of ribbons and pipe cleaners. Pre-school children listen to stories and to staff when they explain the meaning of words, such as delighted. Toddlers show high levels of engagement as they join in with actions and movements to songs. Staff encourage children to join in and to gallop, hop and skip. This helps to develop children's physical skills.

Children are kind and respectful. When staff say thank you to them, they respond with 'You are welcome.' Furthermore, children show an interest in and take responsibility for looking after the environment. At tidy-up time, pre-school children ask for a brush to sweep up the sand. Toddlers explain they are wiping up the water spills.

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

- The managers are passionate about the quality of service that they provide to children and families. The staff in each room work well together. They speak highly of their managers and the support they receive for their well-being.
- Managers ensure they use additional funding, such as early years pupil premium, effectively to promote the well-being and learning of children. For example, staff have used funds to purchase resources to support children to manage their listening and attention skills.
- The managers recognised that some children, especially toddlers, were behind in their communication and language skills since the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, staff attended courses to help them to introduce the use of sign language alongside the spoken word. This approach is having a positive effect on children's progress in communication and language and is being cascaded across the whole nursery.
- There is a strong emphasis, across all the rooms, on providing a curriculum that promotes children's independence and self-care. For instance, with lots of praise and encouragement from staff, toddlers manage to put on their outdoor wetsuits with minimal help. This builds their skills and confidence as they move from room to room.

- Staff encourage children to recall previous learning. For example, children remember finding a frog in the garden and staff provide them with books and a magnetic game with a frog theme. However, very occasionally, some staff interactions and some activities do not help to inspire children to build on their learning. One example of this is when staff were not creative in their presentation of an activity and used pictures to compare past and present day toys. Children lost interest quite quickly.
- Books are accessible everywhere in the nursery, and children enjoy sharing books with adults throughout the nursery. Pre-school children become enthralled as staff tell stories with expression and joy. Babies turn the pages of books and feel the different textures on each page. This means that children are developing a love of books.
- Staff promote children's good health and contribute to them having a healthy lifestyle. For example, children learn to wash their hands before mealtimes, and regularly spend time outside in the fresh air. Pre-school children show excellent physical skills as they whizz around the garden and balance on wheeled toys.
- Children have the chance to experience different opportunities that they may not get at home. For example, they follow instructions and explore capacity as they weigh and measure ingredients to make shortbread biscuits. Furthermore, they show care and concern for living things, when they feed and nurture the nursery guinea pig.
- Staff have a consistent approach to behaviour management. In the event of very minor disagreements, staff make eye contact with children and gently explain to them why their behaviour may not be fair. Staff go on to discuss what children can do instead, such as waiting for their turn with a toy.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. They are deployed effectively around the nursery to supervise children. Staff use risk assessments and daily checks to ensure that the environment is free from hazards. Staff have a breadth of safeguarding knowledge. They know the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and they understand what action to take in order to protect children. Staff give the health and welfare of children high priority. This is especially evident when staff identify and ensure that children with food allergies and preferences receive the correct food and drinks at mealtimes.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- raise staff's confidence and understanding of how to fully extend and inspire children's learning during activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2597821
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10251462
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	56
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Heath Farm Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP529044
Telephone number	01522 722222
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Rainbow Day Nursery registered in 2020 and is located in Lincoln. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one member of staff with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens all year round, from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

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 managers and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The managers and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Staff and children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- 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 managers and the inspector carried out a joint observation together.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and took account of their feedback.

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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