

# Inspection of Gadebridge Nursery & Pre-School

Gadebridge Community Association, Gadebridge Community Centre, Rossgate, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP1 3LG

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Inspection date: 17 January 2023

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
The quality of education	<b>Good</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Good</b>
Personal development	<b>Good</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

Children arrive happily at the nursery; friendly staff greet them at the door and children separate easily from their parents. They quickly engage in the wide variety of learning opportunities on offer. Role play is a popular activity throughout the nursery. Babies enjoy exploring resources made from different materials. They listen carefully to the sounds they make when they mix spoons in metal bowls. Older children base their play on their experiences, such as pretending to make meals. They play together well as they work out roles for themselves and each other.

Children are developing a positive attitude to learning in preparation for school. Babies enjoy choosing books and staff enthusiastically share stories with them. Toddlers immerse themselves in exploration using sand and paint. They need little interaction with others as they concentrate on what they are doing. Pre-school children are developing strong pencil skills. Many of them write their names and other words with ease. Children are well behaved. Staff model how to be kind and respectful to others. When children occasionally struggle to manage their behaviour, staff calmly intervene to meet children's needs.

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

- The provider has a clear vision for the setting and shows passion for ensuring all children are supported in making good progress. Since the last inspection, she has placed a strong focus on developing the staff team. The provider uses identified areas of development to provide targeted training and focused staff meetings. Staff are motivated and keen to continually develop their knowledge and skills.
- The key-person system is strong, staff know their key children well. They understand what children know and can do and plan clear next steps in learning for each child. Staff successfully sequence the curriculum as they build on children's knowledge and skills. This results in children in the pre-school having strong knowledge and skills and being well prepared for moving on to school.
- Children's communication and language development is good. This includes children who speak English as an additional language. Staff use simple language with babies and sing songs. They pronounce words clearly, so that children can hear correct pronunciations. Staff learn words and phrases in other languages that children speak. This helps children to feel valued and secure.
- Children's health and well-being are given high priority. They benefit from nutritious food cooked on the premises. Children enjoy helping to set the tables and count as they lay out plates and cups. Children have daily opportunities to be active in the large hall and nearby gym. This enables them to practise using their larger muscles.

- Parent's comments about the nursery and staff are positive. They state that they feel well informed about their children's development and know how to support their learning at home. Parents state that their children feel safe and that staff know and understand them as individuals.
- Staff interact well with children through play and planned activities. They support children to think for themselves as they ask probing questions. Children are, mostly, enthusiastic to give their thoughts and ideas. However, quieter children can sometimes get overlooked and are not always fully included. This prevents these children having the confidence to share their views and answer questions.
- The provider has rigorous recruitment procedures in place to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. She has systems in place to review staff's practice and to help them develop further, such as through supervision meetings. However, the provider, who is also the manager, does not always use her strong leadership team to support her to regularly observe staff's teaching.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a strong knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate children are at risk of harm. This includes for example areas of abuse and extremism. They know how to report these concerns in the nursery and to relevant safeguarding agencies. Staff regularly complete safeguarding training and give high priority to ensuring children are safe. Recent reviews of risk assessments have resulted in extra security measures being put in place. This includes alarms being added to external doors, so that staff are alerted if these are ever left open.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- support staff to identify quieter children and include them more in group discussion and activities
- provider further opportunities for the leadership team to develop their skills in observing and monitoring staff's teaching and practice.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2526887
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10237526
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	36
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	61
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Shining Dawn Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2526886
<b>Telephone number</b>	07870 542 738
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	22 March 2022

## Information about this early years setting

Gadebridge Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2019 and operates from Gadebridge Community Centre. The nursery and pre-school employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. The nursery and pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7.30am to 6.30pm. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Jill Hardaker

## Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in her evaluations.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the provider and they discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector spoke with staff, parents and children at appropriate times and took account of their views.
- A joint observation was carried out and discussed by the provider and the inspector.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the 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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