

Inspection of Manor Farm Day Nursery

76 London Road, SANDY, Bedfordshire SG19 1DZ

Inspection date: 20 January 2023

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 across the nursery are happy and settle quickly. They get to know the whole staff team and are confident to ask for help when they need to. Babies show that they feel safe in their surroundings. For instance, they turn to staff for cuddles and drift off to sleep in their arms. Older babies demonstrate their emerging understanding of kindness as they take toys to their friend while they sleep.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, younger children learn why it is important to blow their food before they eat it as it could be hot. Older children then confidently explain to visiting adults how they stay safe as they eat. Older children help with tasks, such as handing out food and cutlery at mealtimes. This helps them to develop their understanding of the importance of working together with others.

All children develop the skills they require for the next stage of their learning. They are keen to learn and remain engaged in the activities staff provide for them. Those children who need additional support progress well. They receive appropriate support from dedicated staff and their targets accurately match their individual needs and abilities.

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

- Staff support children to become effective communicators. They use relevant language so that children can correctly hear how words sound. Staff use questioning appropriately to encourage children's vocabulary. For instance, they ask children about the texture of the play dough as they mix the ingredients together. Older children confidently share their thoughts with staff, for example as they speak about their own experiences at home during an adult-led activity. This helps children to make connections between the activities they complete at nursery and their own lives.
- The staff work well together and recognise the importance of sharing information. For example, they discuss their key children with others when they are going to be absent from work. This helps the wider staff team to provide children with continuity of care and build on their learning consistently.
- Parents are happy with the service that the nursery provides. Staff regularly share information with parents regarding children's progress. They gather a range of information from parents when children start. This helps staff to provide appropriate activities based on children's interests and abilities. Managers and staff provide parents with opportunities to build on children's learning at home. For instance, they send home ideas for activities for Father's Day. This helps children to continue learning when they are not at the nursery.
- Children behave well at the nursery. Staff provide them with consistent

messages. This helps children to know what staff expect from them. Staff use praise and encouragement to motivate children. This helps them to persevere and recognise their achievements. For example, staff praise children during an adult-led activity as they follow the staff member's instructions and complete tasks independently.

- Managers are highly reflective and adapt what they offer to meet the needs of the children who currently attend the setting. They have a clear vision for the nursery and have identified appropriate areas for development. Staff report that they feel well supported in their roles. Managers value the staff team and encourage their involvement in the running of the nursery. For instance, room leaders and staff regularly reflect on what works well in their rooms and what they can improve further.
- Overall, children are able to follow their own interests and lead their play and learning. However, occasionally, staff interrupt children's play and learning or restrict children's access to activities which they show an interest in. This is due to the arrangement of the learning environments across the nursery. For instance, staff request that older children come out of an area when they are already fully engaged in their play. This can limit children's ability to make the most of the learning opportunities which interest them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is a strong safeguarding culture across the nursery. Staff fully understand their responsibilities to keep children safe. They complete relevant safeguarding training to ensure that their knowledge is up to date. They are aware of the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm. Managers are confident in the process to follow to raise concerns regarding children and staff to the appropriate agencies. Staff are confident about how to report concerns about their colleagues to managers. The management team reflects on any incidents and swiftly implements any relevant changes to minimise potential 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:

- support children to access all resources and learning spaces more freely, to help them follow their own interests and make the most of their learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459718
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	10269942
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	1 to 5
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	94
Name of registered person	Davidson-Roberts Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP911128
Telephone number	01767 681805
Date of previous inspection	30 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

Manor Farm Day Nursery registered in 2013. It opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm all year round. The nursery provides funded education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It employs 28 childcare staff. Of these, 25 hold relevant qualifications at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Hardy

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 managers and the inspector completed a learning walk together. Managers spoke to the inspector about what they intend children to learn and how this is delivered across the nursery.
- The inspector jointly observed staff practice with a manager. They discussed the impact of the staff's interactions with children on their learning and development.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and provided written feedback, which the inspector took into consideration.
- The inspector spoke to staff, managers and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

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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