

Inspection of Little Sneakers

46 Node Hill, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7RG

Inspection date: 16 February 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 relish their time in nursery. They happily enter the nursery and greet staff and their friends. Children form close attachments to staff and their peers, and they share what they have been doing since the last time they were in nursery. They settle quickly into the activities and show high levels of concentration and perseverance with tasks.

Children enjoy pretending to be pirates looking for treasure. They dig in the sand and look for different stones in the garden to paint and make their own treasure. Older children continually develop their play, narrating what they are doing. They create different voices for characters in their play and negotiate with their friends, agreeing who should be which character and what they are going to do. Children develop an ability to listen to what others have to say and share their own opinion.

Babies confidently explore their environment. They use push-along walkers as they build their confidence when starting to walk and enjoy holding staff's hands as they take tentative steps. Staff reassure them when visitors come into their room, giving cuddles and affection.

Children see images of themselves involved in activities within the playrooms. They talk about their families and the special people in their lives. Children develop an understanding of cultural events and celebrations. Books, resources and photographs encourage discussion about similarities and differences, and children recognise that they are unique.

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

- Managers and staff use their knowledge of children, their interests and their abilities to provide a wealth of learning opportunities that stimulate children's natural curiosity to learn. Activities challenge children, who thrive in this environment. Staff work in partnership with professionals involved in children's lives to ensure consistency at all times.
- Managers and staff share the same passion for their roles and the desire for children to make the best possible progress. They meet regularly as a team and keep their knowledge and skills up to date through training. However, opportunities to monitor staff's practice have not been as frequent.
- Resources continually enhance children's knowledge and understanding. For example, staff support children to use technology to enhance their understanding in a range of topics. Children enjoy researching information about crocodiles. Staff encourage them to explain what they think the crocodiles' skin and teeth are like, and they use pictures to explore this and create their own models using dough and uncooked pasta. Staff encourage children to share their

own thoughts and pose questions. However, at times, staff do not give children enough time to think about what they have been asked and respond before giving them the answer.

- Children's love of being outside is supported well. They enjoy exploring and continually building on what they already know. Children use their imagination, searching for fossils in the digging area. They explain that their fossils are dinosaurs and trace their fingers over them to feel the different textures and shapes.
- Staff capture children's attention and enhance their love of books as they re-enact familiar, favourite stories. Children pretend they are walking through 'swishy, swashy' grass and splashing through water as they hunt for a bear in the nursery garden. They retell the story, and their excitement builds as they race home to safety after finding the bear.
- Children develop a good awareness of their own health and well-being. They enjoy a variety of freshly prepared foods and snacks, independently access drinks throughout the day and spend lots of time in the fresh air being physically active. Children become independent individuals. They understand the importance of handwashing throughout the day. Individual care routines are followed, and staff support children through developmental milestones, such as toilet training.
- Children behave well. Staff recognise and praise children's efforts and achievements. Their positive role modelling and gentle, calm approach throughout the day impacts positively on children, who have the same calm and relaxed demeanour. Children use their manners well. They share and take turns as they play and have built strong and secure friendships.
- Parents are delighted with the nursery, the environment and the caring and supportive staff. They particularly like the garden and the experiences children enjoy outdoors. Parents enjoy hearing about their child's day, progress and achievements. They welcome opportunities to talk about and look at ways to continually support their child's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety is paramount. Staff fully understand their role in safeguarding children. They know the signs that may indicate a child may be at risk of harm or neglect. Staff are fully conversant with the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child in their care. They understand the importance of making a referral if they are concerned about a colleague's practice. Staff take effective steps to ensure the nursery environment is safe and secure. All areas are checked before children access them. Staff support children as they learn to use small tools safely. Children practise the fire evacuation procedures in case of an emergency.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- give children time to think about what they have been asked before asking another question or giving them the answer
- enhance opportunities to monitor staff's practice and use this to build their knowledge and skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331796
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10278074
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Sneakers Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522282
Telephone number	01527 850330
Date of previous inspection	23 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Little Sneakers registered in 2006. It is one of four settings owned by the provider. It is situated in a converted house in the area of Studley, Warwickshire. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, one staff member holds qualified teacher status, two hold a qualification at level 5, six hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for a week during the Whitsun holiday and Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Tracey Boland

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 this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- 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 carried out joint observations of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of 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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