

# Inspection of Puffin's Pre-School And Day Nursery

Cambridge Road, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 2DP

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Inspection date: 18 May 2023

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
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The quality of education

**Good**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Good**

Personal development

**Good**

Leadership and management

**Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

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

### **The provision is good**

Children are forming positive relationships with the staff who care for them. Younger children confidently seek cuddles when they are tired or unwell, and older children interact positively with staff during their play. Staff have high expectations for all children, who behave well. They learn to follow simple instructions, such as helping to tidy up the toys. Staff encourage children to learn about their different emotions, using book characters to help them understand this, for instance from the book 'The Colour Monster'.

Children learn about different cultures. For example, they sample different types of food, learn simple words and find out about the flags that represent different countries. Children learn to keep themselves safe. They go for local walks, and staff teach them about road safety. During snack time, they practise cutting their fruit with a knife under the close supervision of staff.

Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills. They use a variety of play equipment in the local park and develop their hand strength during planned activities. Children cut paper using scissors, make marks to represent letters of the alphabet in the sand and pour their water at mealtimes.

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

- Leaders and managers have successfully addressed the areas for improvement identified at the last inspection. They have employed more staff, reviewed shift patterns and ensured that everyone understands the adult-to-child ratios that must be in place. This ensures there are sufficient staff to meet the needs of the children attending. Leaders and managers observe staff and use this information to target their training needs. This helps staff to understand how to improve their practice.
- The early years curriculum is well planned. The team works together to focus on the different skills children need to know before they move on to the next stage of their learning. Staff recognise that children need more help and support with their communication and language skills following the pandemic. Staff enable children to build up their resilience and become more independent, with a focus on school readiness for those going off to school.
- Staff help children to become familiar with the letters of the alphabet, such as the sounds they make, and encourage them to talk about the items they see during 'bucket time'. Staff support children when settling into the nursery routine, such as singing the 'welcome song' to help them get to know their new friends.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language (EAL) are well supported. The staff

work with other agencies to support children when there are gaps in their learning. Staff work with the local authority to ensure that information is translated for parents who speak EAL, enabling them to find out how to help their child learn at home.

- Staff have completed training to help them support children's communication and language. They ensure that children have plenty of time to respond to any questions they ask and speak to younger children in simple sentences. Staff read to children throughout the day to encourage a love of books. They take time to explain the meaning of new words to help children extend their vocabulary. For example, they talk about the words 'camouflage' and 'chameleons'.
- Parents report they are very happy. They feel the setting really knows their child well. They are very supportive towards their child in their development. Parents are kept well informed about their child's development through parents' evenings, the detailed handover and through an app.
- Staff encourage children to share and take turns with their friends. During planned circle time, children try to concentrate and participate in the activity. However, on occasion, they are distracted due to what is going on in the environment around them. For example, staff prepare tables for lunch, and some children are asked to leave the activity to wash their hands in readiness for lunchtime.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection. If they have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare, they make a prompt referral to the relevant agency. Effective procedures are followed within the nursery to keep children safe. For example, if a child arrives with an injury, staff ask parents to provide an explanation. Staff recruitment is secure, and managers check their continued suitability during regular supervision meetings. Risk assessments are effective. When children are being handed over to their parent, staff are very aware of ensuring that children do not leave the setting without their adult.

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

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

- enhance the organisation of large-group activities to enable children to focus and listen to what is being taught with fewer distractions in the environment.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY560200
<b>Local authority</b>	Surrey
<b>Inspection number</b>	10246074
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	2 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	49
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Puffin's Childcare Providers Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP560199
<b>Telephone number</b>	01932 883 448
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	7 June 2022

## Information about this early years setting

Puffin's Pre-School And Day Nursery registered in 2018 and is located in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except on bank holidays and for a week at Christmas. It is able to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 11 staff who work at the nursery. Of these, eight hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above. A qualified teacher also works as part of the staff team.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Maria Conroy

## Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The deputy manager, manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Discussions were held with the nominated individual and manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- 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 manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during snack time.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- 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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