

Inspection of Learning Corner Nursery

265 Dunstable Road, Luton LU4 8BS

Inspection date: 6 June 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 benefit from an ambitious curriculum. Staff ensure that they know children well and know what they need to learn. All activities are designed to ensure that children make the progress that they are capable of. Children smile and are greeted by enthusiastic, caring staff as they enter their allocated rooms. Activities are set out which reflect the interests of children. As a result, children are eager to learn and explore what is on offer. Younger children select different tools and begin to make marks in dough. Older children select various craft materials and begin to make structures.

Behaviour is good. Staff provide times where older children integrate with younger children in the garden and at mealtimes. Younger children benefit from the company of older children, looking up to them as role models. Older children are kind and considerate to even the youngest of children, including them in their play and helping with their care. Staff provide opportunities to teach children about the rules and boundaries in the nursery. They organise activities that encourage children to share and take turns. As a result, children learn to play cooperatively with each other and share the resources that they are playing with.

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

- Staff are passionate about what they do. They are enthusiastic about the care and education that they provide to children. As a result, children are eager to join in with staff as they play in their rooms. For example, children are excited to learn about 'the colour monster' and talk about their feelings.
- Staff across the nursery ensure that they know all children well. This helps when children transition between rooms, as they feel at ease with familiar faces. This contributes to their confidence and self-esteem, and as a result, new children show confidence when in the nursery.
- Opportunities for children to play outdoors are abundant. Children benefit from a spacious garden that is planned well, so that children who learn best outdoors have opportunities to learn skills in all seven areas. Children scoop sand and staff talk to them about what they are making. Others are enthusiastic about fruits and vegetables that they are growing and continue to discuss this as they eat their lunch. Staff help them to make links and consolidate their learning, explaining that the strawberries that they are eating are like the ones they are growing in the garden.
- Activities are planned well and children are eager to join in with staff as they model play. However, on occasion, staff do not allow children to make their own decisions during play. As a result, some children tend to do what the staff are suggesting, rather than finding their own ways of doing things and beginning to solve problems.

- The leadership team has a clear vision for how to improve staff practice and the improvements intended for the nursery. The team ensures that staff are regularly trained, so that they have relevant knowledge to fulfil their roles. Staff talk about how they feel well supported by both the manager and the director of the nursery.
- Staff at the nursery work well with parents to ensure that any emerging need for families is looked after. They provide a food bank and spare clothing for families that need extra support. Parents speak very positively about the effective lines of communication that they have with the nursery, and say that they enjoy that their children are 'able to talk about emotions and feelings', and tell them when they are feeling happy and sad.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team and staff show good awareness of their roles and responsibilities relating to keeping children safe. Staff complete safeguarding training to keep their knowledge up to date. They use opportunities during staff meetings to discuss any local safeguarding issues that may be of relevance. Staff know what might concern them about a child, and the procedure to take to help keep them safe. They demonstrate how they teach children to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, staff teach children how to use knives to cut up vegetables or remind children to handle scissors correctly.

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 develop their teaching skills to enable children to make more of their own decisions during play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497081
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	10289063
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Learning Corner Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900859
Telephone number	01582459883
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

Learning Corner Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff, of whom five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Clarkson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 setting.
- The inspector completed a learning walk of the areas used by the setting to find out how they are organised, and the range of activities provided indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector checked a sample of documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery manager and the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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