

Inspection of Child First Aylesbury Nursery

Green End, Aylesbury HP20 2SA

Inspection date: 12 June 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff are introducing a new and ambitious curriculum. This helps to provide children with enjoyable experiences that excite and stimulate them. Children show a great sense of enjoyment in their play. Babies smile broadly and babble, while older children move with purpose and confidence. Staff demonstrate a good awareness of children's growth and development. They know what contributes towards children's good physical progress and recognise that children need to build core strength, such as by babies spending time lying on their tummies. Staff help older children to climb, balance and make use of equipment to promote their coordination and spatial awareness. When children need extra help with their physical development, staff put plans in place to ensure that they have ample opportunities to strengthen their muscles.

Support from staff is good and all children are achieving well, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Older children show their expertise and sophisticated vocabulary when they talk with adults. When playing with a jigsaw puzzle, they correct adults when they mistake an alligator for a crocodile. This shows the confidence they have in their knowledge and their good ability to talk about things that interest them.

Staff give children clear guidance and support their personal, social and emotional development well. This helps children to learn about expected behaviour and creates an environment where children play in safety.

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

- The manager has a good understanding about how young children acquire speech. As a result, staff focus on repetition of familiar songs and stories so that children hear key words. Staff use traditional nursery rhymes to help young children copy words and build on their vocabulary. Young children excitedly recite rhymes from memory and enjoy copying actions. Children look at books together and can identify characters and phrases. They know the rhythm of text and repeat this as they turn the pages of the book, showing their developing awareness that words carry meaning.
- The manager has introduced a new curriculum. Generally, staff know what they want children to learn. However, as the curriculum intentions are new and staff have recently changed the rooms where they work, at times they are not fully confident to put the curriculum into action. Furthermore, the manager has yet to have time to fully monitor the impact of the curriculum on children's development.
- The special educational needs and/or disability coordinator (SENCo), is highly knowledgeable and works effectively to ensure that all children achieve a good

level of development at the nursery. Along with the staff team, the SENCo helps support children as they experience changes, such as moves between rooms or on to the next setting. This helps children to experience consistency in their care and education.

- The young children who attend the nursery explore their strong impulse to learn through using all their senses. Staff understand the importance of encouraging children to touch, taste and encounter new experiences in a safe manner. Children get great pleasure from filling containers with water and sand and mixing different media together to find out what happens.
- Key persons build close relationships with children and their families. This is highly beneficial for helping children to settle into the nursery, particularly for the youngest children. Staff in the baby room make sure that they know all about children's home routines so that they can replicate these at the nursery. In doing so, children follow familiar patterns for feeding and sleeping that help them to feel safe and content.
- There have been several changes to management at the nursery over a short period of time. The new manager is an exceptional leader, who manages the nursery with calm confidence. This is beginning to have a significant positive impact upon the quality of the care and education provided for children.
- Staff now have robust support and supervision sessions. The manager praises their good work and ensures that they can reflect on their own performance and undertake training to enhance their skills. Parents say that they feel well-informed about their child's progress and feel reassured that children are happy and content.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are vigilant in supervising children. They take action to update risk assessments and maintain a safe environment. All staff understand their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding. For example, staff are aware of the signs and symptoms that very young children might display when at risk of harm. Senior staff who take responsibility for reporting any concerns about children's welfare to the relevant safeguarding partners are clear about their role. Regular checks on staff suitability and ongoing monitoring help to ensure that those who work with children are suitable to do so.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase staff's confidence in delivering the curriculum so that they can reliably build on what children already know to fully maximise their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2689125
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	10293812
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 3
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Bright Stars Nursery Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP538317
Telephone number	01296 392516
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Child First Aylesbury re-registered in 2022. It operates close to the town centre in Aylesbury. The nursery is open from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 and above, including the manager, who has a level 5 qualification. The nursery provides free funded early education for children aged 2 years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

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 inspector discussed the intent of the curriculum and observed its implementation during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation was completed and discussed with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- Parents were invited to share their views with the inspector. Several parents discussed their views during the inspection and the inspector took account of all feedback received.

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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