

Inspection of Little Elms Daycare Shirley

Doctors Surgery, 2 South Way, Croydon CR0 8RP

Inspection date: 19 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 Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive eager to start their day. All children have the option to choose where they wish to play. Toddlers are skilled in using the stairs safely and confidently, enhancing their physical development well. They thoroughly enjoy learning how to make bubbles during water play. Staff teach toddlers about sea animals and use the correct terms, such as tentacles, when asking to count how many an octopus has. This further develops children's language development and emerging mathematical skills. Babies develop their small-muscle skills as they explore sand. They learn to empty and fill containers, developing their emerging language as they babble with staff about their actions.

Pre-school children play extremely well together. They are taught the importance of turn taking. Children enjoy playing group games and help to explain the rules to others. All children recall what they have been taught by staff, and they share and turn take well. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported exceptionally well. Staff meet with parents and other professionals to support children's learning and development. They work together to set targets for children to work towards. Based on children's starting points, they are making good progress with their learning and development.

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

- Leadership is strong at the nursery. New leaders are supported well by the head office and have regular meetings to review their work and practice. Leaders highlight areas to improve and how to support staff practice in the nursery.
- Staff in the younger rooms are not consistent with how they teach children how to use equipment. At times, staff will remove children from equipment rather than teaching them how they can use it, such as teaching them how to use the climbing frames and how to use the slides.
- Staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management. All staff teach children the difference between right and wrong and the importance of listening to others. Children behave well.
- Staff do not evaluate some free-choice activities effectively. Children have limited interaction with these activities, as staff do not react to swap them around for activities the children are interested in.
- Staff have a clear bonds with children. They receive regular cuddles of reassurance and support. Staff talk kindly to children, supporting them to settle in. This helps to build on children's self-esteem and confidence.
- Children of all ages are confident learners. When playing outside, children confidently ask to move between play areas to explore the nature area and climbing frames. This helps to further support children's language development.
- Staff work closely with parents. They gather key words in children's home

languages and make sure they know how to pronounce them correctly. Staff also make good use of picture boards, helping children to learn routines and further aiding the learning of words in English.

- Leaders make good use of funding to help support children's learning. Staff have recently purchased a nursery pet, which has helped children with their behaviour. Staff use the pet to help to teach children techniques to manage their behaviour and how to take care of others.
- The curriculum is effective in supporting children's learning and development. Staff provide a good mix of next steps and themes to support children's development. Children make good progress with their learning and development.
- All children are fully aware of routines. Children recall well the importance of handwashing before any meals and snacks. Staff also work closely with parents to support children when they show an interest in potty training. This further supports children's health and well-being.
- Leaders support staff's well-being effectively. Leaders review staff's workload and review when they may need extra support and/or training. Recent training has helped staff with risk assessments and reviewing the learning environment to make sure it is safe for the children to play in.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a clear understanding of child protection and how to safeguard children in their care. Regular risk assessments and evaluations from leaders of accidents and incidents help staff to keep children safe from harm. Staff have a secure knowledge of signs and symptoms of child protection, including who to report their concerns to. Staff and leaders work closely with other agencies and professionals, such as social workers. They attend regular meetings, sharing children's stages of development and any concerns or improvements. This helps to provide consistency of care and safety for the children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- teach staff how to support younger children when using equipment such as climbing frames
- support staff in evaluating how children use activities and when to change activities based on children's interests.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489229
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10298329
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	63
Number of children on roll	119
Name of registered person	Little Elms Daycare Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902320
Telephone number	02382022462
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2021

Information about this early years setting

Little Elms Daycare Shirley registered in 2015. It is located in the London Borough of Croydon. The nursery opens each weekday, from 7.30am to 6pm, for 52 weeks of the year. The provider employs 30 members of staff. Of these, 22 have early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to early years teacher status. The nursery receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rebecca Hurst

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection about what they enjoy and like to do.
- Staff spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the area manager and senior leaders about the management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector and senior leaders discussed an evaluation of activities and observations on activities carried out.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023