

Inspection of Playaway Nursery (BCC) Limited

Becontree Children's Centre, Stevens Road, Becontree, Essex RM8 2QR

Inspection date: 13 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 are active and busy at nursery. They arrive eager to start their day, separating confidently from their parents. Staff work hard to ensure that they provide an inclusive learning environment for all children. They adapt their practice to ensure that children receive the support they need to take part in activities. Children receive warm and nurturing care, which helps them to be confident. Staff are attuned to the needs of children and use their skills to help children to communicate effectively.

Parents are welcomed inside the nursery to support transitions for children. A well-planned and secure induction process means that staff know children's starting points. They work closely with parents to share information, which supports children to make good progress in their learning and development. Open days allow families to be a part of nursery life as they join in activities and share cultural food.

Children have access to a well-resourced book area, which helps them to develop a love of books. Interactive story time helps children to learn new words and extend their imagination. They talk excitedly about what they might see at an aquarium and act out how penguins waddle when they walk. Open-ended questions help children to make connections in their learning and experiences.

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

- Children are provided with resources to develop their strength, balance, and coordination. With encouragement and support, children learn to climb steps and go down a slide, helping them to learn new skills. Children are given positive praise and they take pride in their achievements.
- Staff support children to play with each other. They explain how their actions are affecting others, and there is strong focus on being kind and sharing resources. This contributes to an environment where children negotiate with each other and share ideas.
- Lunchtime provides an opportunity for children to do things for themselves and learn new words. Staff talk about 'tasty' and 'healthy' vegetables. Children respond by having a go at using a fork for the first time and drinking independently from a cup. However, occasionally staff do not fully support and encourage older children to take part in all routines at nursery to further boost their independence. For example, at times staff do not remind older children to wash their hands before eating or when leaving the bathroom, and after lunch staff encourage some older children to help clear up and tidy away but allow others to walk away leaving their things on the table.
- Staff assess children's needs and work sensitively with parents and carers to

plan next steps. Regular updates keep them informed of the progress that children are making. The nursery requests support from external agencies, as needed, in a timely manner.

- Staff plan activities to promote children's learning and development. Children pour and fill containers in the water tray to develop their hand-eye coordination and wash trucks and diggers as part of their interest in transport. On occasion, the layout of the activities means that some children are not able to join in.
- Staff speak highly of the manager and of the support they receive. They say that the manager is always available when they need them. One-to-one supervision and development opportunities help them to keep up to date with their learning. This has contributed to a motivated staff team, who feel valued and supported.
- Staff use children's interests to help them to learn through play. For example, children's interest in hot air balloons is extended to the creative table, where children make their own balloons and baskets. Adults develop children's imagination by asking them what it might feel like to be floating high in the sky like a balloon.
- Parent feedback shows that they value the service that they receive. They welcome the strategies and suggestions that the nursery makes to help their children's learning and development. They say that this joint working has helped their children to learn new things, and helped them to support their children's behaviour.
- The manager keeps up to date with developments in early years by accessing training, including training that is offered by the local authority. She spends time alongside staff modelling best practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure and confident knowledge of safeguarding and child protection. They fully understand the signs and symptoms of abuse that may highlight a risk of harm for children, and respond to identified concerns efficiently. Leaders ensure that staff attend regular safeguarding training to keep their knowledge up to date. The setting takes appropriate steps to protect children from female genital mutilation and is aware of the safeguarding concerns relating to the 'Prevent' duty. Comprehensive risk assessments are undertaken, and the premises are quickly cleared of any identified hazards. Robust recruitment procedures are in place to ensure the suitability of those who work with the children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- plan and offer activities in smaller groups so that all children can take part fully and benefit from the learning intentions

- support and encourage children to take part in all routines at nursery to enable them to form lifelong habits.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435555
Local authority	Barking and Dagenham
Inspection number	10285713
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Playaway Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909973
Telephone number	02087241839
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

Playaway Nursery (BCC) Limited registered in 2011 and operates from Becontree Children's Centre. It is situated in Dagenham in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The nursery is open each weekday between 8am and 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 12 members of staff, all of whom hold early years qualifications at level 2 or above. Of these, nine staff hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

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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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager took the inspector on a learning walk of the provision and explained their approach to learning.
- A leadership discussion was held with the manager.
- The inspector gained some views from parents about the nursery provision.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector observed the quality of the education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.

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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