

Inspection of Thorpe Nursery Preschool Ltd

Manor Farm House, Coldharbour Lane, Thorpe, Surrey TW20 8TE

Inspection date: 19 September 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 of all ages and abilities are settled, confident and happy during their time at the welcoming nursery. Children happily tell others, 'I have lots of fun at nursery.' Staff demonstrate a good knowledge of how to successfully implement their curriculum. They carefully think about what activities and experiences to provide to help children remain interested to learn. For example, as they read books about dinosaurs, staff teach them the different dinosaur names. Children go on to learn how to make play dough and use the toy dinosaurs to make prints and patterns in their finished product.

Staff teach children about the importance of healthy lifestyles. For instance, they discuss healthy foods during lunchtime. Children choose if they wish to engage in active or quieter activities and have calm places to rest. All children gain good physical skills. For example, they confidently and safely use a wide range of climbing and balancing equipment, such as climbing walls, trees, and tyres. Staff teach children about different cultures and festivals. For example, they talk about the tradition of Eid. Children are confident to communicate their thoughts and ideas. Staff ask children thought-provoking questions and give them time to think and then respond.

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

- The manager and staff establish secure and trusting relationships with children. They get to know their individual personalities and what makes them unique. All children have a positive attitude towards their learning and make good progress. Children are confident and enjoy the company of staff and each other. This is demonstrated when they are excited to play games together and seek out reassurance and hugs from staff.
- All staff fully understand children's individual needs. This includes those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff liaise closely with outside agencies, such as speech and language therapists, to implement helpful techniques, such as simple sign language. Children engage in sensory activities, which help them to feel calm and refocus if they become overwhelmed.
- Overall, children behave well, and staff support them to gain good social skills, such as encouraging them to say please and thank you. Staff recognise and praise good behaviour. However, on occasion, they do not support children to fully understand the consequences of some actions. Therefore, staff do not fully support all children to consistently and thoroughly understand the rules and boundaries in place.
- Overall, children are happy and generally engaged in their learning experiences. However, sometimes staff do not swiftly identify when to step in to support children to further engage and get the most out of their learning opportunities.

This is particularly evident during larger group activities, such as circle time.

- The manager and staff establish positive partnerships with parents, who speak highly of them. Staff keep them informed about what activities their children have enjoyed participating in. They encourage parents to add children's learning from home and provide a good consistency of care between home and the setting. For example, children are excited to take 'Bertie Bear' home and are keen to share tales of the adventures they have with him, with their friends at the nursery.
- The manager closely monitors the good quality of education and care that staff provide. She regularly observes them teach children and provides them with constructive and helpful feedback. Together, staff routinely evaluate their practice and use their findings to enhance their future activity plans.
- Staff attend regular and beneficial training. They have recently learned about the different ways to support children's well-being. This has helped staff to understand how to help children to regulate their emotions safely and appropriately.
- Staff use additional funding well to meet the individual needs of children. For example, they have used funding to provide more focused and individual time to help children to settle and get the most out of their learning opportunities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a good knowledge of all safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures. They fully understand the signs and symptoms of abuse to be vigilant for. This includes all aspects, such as the 'Prevent' duty. All staff know who to contact to seek advice and how to manage any potential concerns. This includes knowing how to manage any allegations against staff and how to deal with any serious complaints appropriately. All staff complete thorough risk assessments to minimise the risk of any serious accidents. Staff help ensure that they keep all children safe. This includes deploying themselves well to closely supervise children, who explore and learn with confidence.

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 a more consistent approach to helping children understand the reason for the rules and boundaries in place
- strengthen staff's skills in identifying when children would benefit from staff interaction, particularly during large-group time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409031
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10301553
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Thorpe Nursery Preschool Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902889
Telephone number	01932 569 592
Date of previous inspection	10 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

Thorpe Nursery Preschool Ltd registered in 2010. It is located in Thorpe, Surrey. The setting is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 3.30pm, term time only. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting employs eight members of staff, five of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2 and above. This includes three members of staff who have a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff who holds early years professional status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector carried out a learning walk. The inspector assessed the impact of the quality of staff interactions and the learning opportunities they provide children.
- The indoor and outdoor learning environments were viewed by the inspector.
- The inspector reviewed written documentation. This included safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.
- A joint observation was carried out on a planned activity, focusing on supporting children to build on their communication skills.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents and staff at convenient times and considered their views.

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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