

Inspection of Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bexley Heath

Graham Road, Bexley Heath, Kent, Kent DA6 7EG

Inspection date: 4 December 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

Leaders of the nursery are clear about what they want the children to learn. They provide an inclusive curriculum that meets the needs of all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. As a result, all children who attend the setting make good progress from their starting points.

Leaders and staff get to know the children and their families well. They implement robust settling-in arrangements when children start attending, to help them to feel safe and secure. Babies benefit from consistent care routines and effective key-person arrangements, which help them to quickly settle in and become familiar with the learning environment.

Leaders and staff deliver the curriculum for physical development well. Young babies are supported to move around safely in the well-organised classroom, building on their large-muscle development. Staff teach two-year-old children how to climb equipment safely and develop their spatial awareness. Children learn to take age-appropriate risks and build on their curiosity while playing in the large garden.

Staff are respectful, while having clear expectations for behaviour and routines. They read books, explain to the children the importance of sharing, and encourage them to talk about how they feel. Consequently, children across the age groups behave well and display positive attitudes to learning.

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

- Leaders and staff use assessments well to monitor how well children achieve. They have identified that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on some children's communication and language development. Therefore, they have implemented various strategies, including a lending library where older children take books home to read with their parents. Overall, staff maintain positive interactions with children to help to extend their interest and learning further. However, at times, staff are not always proactive in encouraging children who use dummies as a comforter to take them out when they do not need them, so they can engage and participate meaningfully in learning experiences and further build on their speech and language development.
- Staff set high expectations for behaviour. They teach children to be kind and remind them of the expected behaviour boundaries. For instance, when children start to run indoors or throw resources accidentally, staff go down to their level and explain why this behaviour is not appropriate. In addition, staff offer lots of praise throughout the day, which helps to boost children's self-esteem. This approach successfully builds children's confidence and independence.

- The manager and staff work closely with parents. Staff use the online system and face-to-face communication well to keep parents informed about children's care and learning. In addition, the staff seek and act on the views of parents to help to identify areas to improve. Parents are kept to date with staff changes and other welfare matters through emails. Parents report that they feel that their children are happy and well cared for, and know what the children have been doing each day.
- Children are self-assured and motivated to learn. Children show pride in their own achievements and those of others. For example, while creating a picture with small pegs, children give their friends a 'thumbs up' and tell them 'good job, it looks beautiful'. Children maintain positive concentration and focus throughout the day. Children are prepared well for their future education.
- Staff know the children well and can confidently explain how they are progressing and what they need to learn next. However, on a few occasions, they do not ensure that what they plan for each child to learn is implemented effectively. For example, staff are not always present to support some activities, even when they have identified that adult input is needed to help the children to build on previous knowledge and learn new skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The inspection was conducted following a significant event that occurred at the setting. Leaders have taken steps to improve staff's understanding of their responsibilities to supervise children effectively to help to keep them safe. In addition, leaders have revised their risk assessment to help to improve the security of the premises. These changes have helped to strengthen safeguarding arrangements at the setting. The management team and staff have a suitable understanding of child protection. They can easily identify when there is a concern about a child's welfare and know what action to take to safeguard them. Staff are aware of the correct procedure to follow if there are concerns about another staff member.

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 better understand and implement the curriculum aims for developing children's communication and language development so that all children make consistently good progress in their speaking skills
- improve oversight of the teaching and learning across the setting to help to ensure that staff plan learning experiences that are correctly matched to what children need to learn, to help close any learning gaps successfully and build on what they already know.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY343485
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10316885
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 4
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	118
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900821
Telephone number	0208 3031676
Date of previous inspection	1 May 2018

Information about this early years setting

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Bexley Heath registered in 2006. It is located in Bexleyheath, in the London Borough of Bexley. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 32 staff employed. Of these, 21 hold early years qualifications at level 2 and above.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Josephine Afful

Katie Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspectors discussed any impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with leaders and have taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- A learning walk was conducted by the lead inspector and the nursery manager and discussions were held about the curriculum intent for children's learning and how the early years provision is structured.
- The inspectors held discussions with the management team and staff to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements at the setting.
- Some parents spoke to the inspectors, who took their views into account.
- A joint observation was carried out by the lead inspector and the nursery manager, and discussions were held about children's learning.
- The inspectors observed interactions between staff and children, and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspectors looked at evidence of the staff's suitability checks.

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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