

Inspection of Quince Tree Day Nursery LTD

Quince Tree Day Nursery, Quince Tree Close, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 6NL

Inspection date: 30 January 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive at this nursery. Staff create a welcoming, enriching and nurturing environment. Children form secure attachments with the adults. Staff prioritise children's well-being and happiness. They are extremely confident to explore the creative and varied activities available. Children rush in to greet their friends and staff, excited for the day ahead. Younger children separate from parents, happy in their key person's care. Children show curiosity and kindness to each other and visitors. Staff include them in introductions and value their contribution to conversations. They confidently ask questions and talk about what they love about being here.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are exceptionally well supported at this setting. All children have full access to the wonderful learning opportunities available in this vibrant and exciting nursery. Sensitive teaching about how we all learn differently supports children to be respectful, understanding and considerate of everyone's uniqueness.

Children's ideas and interests influence every moment at this nursery. At group time, children are bursting with excitement to share their thoughts. A story ignites a detailed conversation about caring for our planet. Staff use skilled teaching to guide the learning. Discussion follows about the importance of trees, linking knowledge gained from a visit to the allotments. Children know that trees give us 'air and food'. Applying previously learned facts in different contexts demonstrates the excellent teaching these children experience.

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

- Staff use a positive approach to learning. Children develop confidence in trying new skills and develop a 'can do' attitude. They plan a broad and challenging curriculum. Staff skilfully introduce new learning opportunities to extend children's knowledge.
- Children's interests and fascinations are key in this nursery. Staff support children to explore topics, which leads to amazing learning opportunities. For example, when learning about differences between each other, they created a paper model of a child for a display. The children went on to learn about and decorate the model with deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and cells. This led to a whole project which was sent to the Science Museum which resulted in further learning. The children proudly talk about the display wall and how special we all are, with different cells and DNA unique to each other.
- Interactions with children are exceptional. Staff consistently work at children's level. They watch, listen and respond to children ensuring they feel valued and respected. Conversations are extended to support language skills.

- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. They use consistent, successful strategies to promote positive behaviour. Children demonstrate their understanding of the behaviour rules and show exemplary consideration to others.
- Parent partnerships are excellent. Parents know their child's key person and talk about a sense of family with the team. They express how well their children are cared for and supported to make exceptional progress. Some children have moved from other provisions, and parents report how different the service is here. Parents comment how much happier their children are and how secure they feel in this nurturing setting. They speak of the nursery going 'above and beyond' their expectations. Parents feel extremely well informed of their child's day and that the daily communication is excellent.
- Children experience a wide range of opportunities to support their understanding of, and respect for, the world around them. Different cultures and faiths are embraced in this nursery. Visitors are welcomed regularly to teach the children about their culture, faith or their work.
- The management demonstrates exemplary record-keeping and planning for all operational aspects of the running of the nursery. Priority is given to staff's continuous professional development. They are fully supported to build on their existing knowledge and embrace new challenges. Staff speak with enthusiasm and express a real sense of teamwork. They feel valued and respected by each other, resulting in a wonderful atmosphere to work in.
- Staff work consistently with their key children which leads to close, secure relationships with children. This is particularly evident in the younger children's rooms. Staff expertly comfort and calm babies and toddlers. Knowing the children so well means that they can anticipate their needs and address them promptly. At sleep time, children are comforted by the staff with cuddles. Their favourite music plays gently in the background. Children settle contentedly, familiar with the regular routine.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY339858
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10311685
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Quince Tree Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904259
Telephone number	01708858989
Date of previous inspection	5 April 2018

Information about this early years setting

Quince Tree Day Nursery registered in 2006. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 7pm all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 15 practitioners, including the manager. Of these, seven staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 and three members of staff hold a qualification at level 2. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sue Triscott

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 setting.
- The deputy manager, manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to/communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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