

Inspection of Fennies Woking

Woodham House, Carlton Road, WOKING, Surrey GU21 4HE

Inspection date: 6 February 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children at the nursery are happy and settle down quickly when they arrive. The staff are kind, gentle and know the children well. Staff understand how to comfort the children if they need it and effectively meet their needs. They have developed strong relationships which give the children a sense of belonging, and they trust the adults that care for them.

Staff provide an array of indoor and outdoor learning opportunities for children to explore. Children love being outside in the fresh air. Staff ensure that children have access to the outdoor environment in all weathers. They are actively involved and share the joy of learning with the children. For example, children work together as they make 'chocolate worm soup'. They ask their friends to collect water, which they mix into mud and stir. Staff facilitate the children's learning experience and ask the children to think of words that describe the worms. This supports the children's communication and language skills as they make-believe.

Staff encourage children to be creative and to use their imaginations to produce and design their own work. For example, the staff read 'The Three Little Pigs' story to the children. Children listen intently and staff check their understanding by asking questions. Staff encourage children to think of ideas and to work together to devise a plan to make their own house. Children use large boxes and different tools that support their creativity. Staff encourage and guide children in their creations. They offer advice and ask questions that prompt the children's thinking. Children are engrossed at this time and are given time and space to connect their thinking, thoughts and ideas.

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

- The manager has worked hard with staff to create a curriculum that is well sequenced and suited to the children's current needs and abilities. Staff share the vision and recognise what it is they are teaching children. They understand how to successfully deliver the curriculum, which helps ensure that the children make progress. Staff build on what children already know and plan targets for the children to achieve. These are appropriate to successfully nudge the children on in their development. Children develop the skills they need for future learning.
- Staff understand their role and responsibility in being a key person and have developed good relationships with the children and their families. They positively praise, recognise and celebrate children's achievements. Children are kind and polite to each other. Managers and staff have created a culture of respectfulness where children learn positive behaviour.
- Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities well.

They understand what support is needed for children that require additional care. Staff adapt activities and the environment to ensure that all the children's needs are met. They have the same ambition for all children and effectively support their care and learning. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to give the children the care they need. This means all children improve in their development in line with their abilities.

- Children are comfortable and content in the staff's company. This allows children to explore their environment, knowing they have a secure base to return to. Children go to the staff for emotional reassurance when they need it. The staff comfort the children quickly, which helps children to regulate their emotions. However, at times, staff do not give children all the support they need to help them understand their feelings, such as by talking about their emotions and why they feel upset. This does not fully support their personal, social and emotional development.
- Managers are passionate about making continual improvements for the children, their families and staff. They have worked tirelessly since the previous inspection to make significant changes to improve the standards of the nursery. Managers are committed, and they move forward with dedication to ensure that the children receive quality care and education. Staff are well supported and are given opportunities to progress within the nursery and build on their skills. Staff feel their well-being is important and that they are part of a team that supports one another.
- Parent partnership is effective. Managers and staff recognise parents' value in supporting the children's learning and development. Staff share information about children's progress and offer ideas and guidance on how children can be supported at home. Parents express their gratitude for the care and support that their children receive. They feel part of their children's learning and are comfortable sharing any concerns should they have them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance support given to staff to help them develop children's emotional language and understanding of their feelings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY547466
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10284046
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 5
Total number of places	145
Number of children on roll	107
Name of registered person	Fennies Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP528142
Telephone number	020 8770 3222
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2023

Information about this early years setting

Fennies Woking, formally Fennies@ Woodhams House, registered in 2017. It is one of 19 nurseries owned by Fennies Day Nurseries Ltd. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 7pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 35 staff, including the chef and housekeepers. Of these, three hold qualified teacher status, one holds a qualification at level 6 and 16 hold qualifications at level 2 and above.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Kelley Ellis
Maria Conroy

Inspection activities

- The inspectors discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and have taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspectors on a learning walk and talked to the inspectors about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspectors spoke to children to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspectors carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspectors spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of 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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