

Inspection of Safe Haven day Nursery

Safe Haven Day Nursery, 61a High Street, Mansfield Woodhouse, Mansfield NG19 8BB

Inspection date: 21 August 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children show they feel safe and secure in the caring and nurturing environment that staff create. Babies reach out to a familiar member of staff and beam with happiness as they play together. Staff in the baby room understand the importance of supporting babies to make firm attachments to a key adult in their care. They use extensive settling-in sessions to build relationships with parents and ensure they have key information to provide continuity in children's care.

Children behave well and create good relationships with others. Babies share paints as they make marks on paper, and toddlers help to prepare snack for their friends. Older children learn to take turns to throw balls through a hoop and regulate their own emotions as they accept winning and losing in a sack race.

Staff provide children with many opportunities to learn safely outside. Children show great interest in the well-thought-out activities provided for them. For example, older children develop their large muscles as they have fun climbing through tunnels. Toddlers sit in the large sandpit and use tools to make sandcastles, developing their hand-eye coordination. Babies develop their small muscles as they squeeze oranges and lemons in the water tray and enjoy the citrus smell in the water.

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

- The management team works closely with staff to develop and implement a well-sequenced curriculum. Staff use their monitoring and assessment process to help them to identify what children need to learn next, and use children's interests to create activities to support this. For example, babies focus their attention as they thread sticks of rhubarb down tubes, developing their physical skills. However, on occasions, some staff do not adapt their interactions quickly enough to challenge able toddlers and older children. For example, staff describe the adventures of 'Bubbles' the bear from his visits to the children's homes without providing sufficient opportunity for children to share their own thoughts.
- Staff support children to develop their communication and language skills. They model sounds and use naming vocabulary when talking to babies. They interpret babies' babble. Staff recognise the value of singing songs and rhymes and reading stories to help children to acquire and use words and vocabulary. These are part of everyday practice across the nursery. However, at times, staff do not recognise opportunities to encourage two-way conversations and extend children's language skills further.
- Children behave well. Staff take time to talk to children and help them to manage their feelings by offering solutions. They support them to manage their own behaviour. For example, staff remind children about including their friends

as they take turns to sit in the rocket and pretend to blast off to the moon.

- Staff create an environment that is interesting and exciting for children to engage in. Children focus on their chosen activity and show a high level of curiosity. For example, they explore the outdoor environment and develop their physical skills as they make huge bubbles by dragging large hoops through bubble water. Children learn to manage their own safety as they practise using the tree swing.
- Children learn skills in preparation for their move on to school, including how to be independent. For example, in the baby room, staff give babies time to learn to feed themselves. In the toddler room, staff encourage children to use knives and forks to eat their lunch. Pre-school children set the tables for their friends by putting out knives and forks for lunch and serve their own food.
- Parents praise the 'home-from-home' setting. They value the communication and warmth from the staff members. Staff regularly share information about children's development and provide information to help parents support and extend children's learning at home. Parents comment that their children are eager to tell them all about their day and the things they have enjoyed doing while at nursery.
- The management team and staff show a great deal of passion and pride in the nursery. The team supports staff with regular supervision sessions and sets targets to enhance their skills. Staff undertake training to improve their teaching, and this learning is shared with other staff to ensure good practice throughout the nursery. For example, staff have all used learning from training to support consistent management of children's behaviour.

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:

- support staff to use every opportunity to challenge children to think for themselves and build on what they already know
- strengthen staff's skills and understanding of when and how to further extend children's communication skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2748279
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10361526
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	164
Name of registered person	Safe Haven day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2748278
Telephone number	01623480554
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Safe Haven Day Nursery registered in 2023 and is situated in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold early years teacher status, one holds an appropriate qualification at level 4, 14 hold qualifications at level 3 and two are qualified at level 2. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

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 provider and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The manager talked to the inspector about the activities provided at the nursery and how these assist children in their learning and development.
- The quality of interactions during activities was observed, and the inspector assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff, parents and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.

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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