

Inspection of Busy Bees Day Nursery at Northampton, Riverside

Unit 3 Museum Way, Riverside Business Park, Northampton NN3 9HW

Inspection date: 29 October 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 are eager to start their day at this welcoming nursery. Staff spend time with children and get to know them when they first start. This helps children to settle quickly and form reassuring bonds with staff. Staff provide a calm environment and implement simple routines to create a safe and consistent experience for children. Children take part in learning experiences that have been carefully planned to meet their developmental needs. For example, babies enjoy using spoons to scoop lemons out of the water into containers. This helps them learn the skills that are needed to use a spoon at mealtimes. Toddlers strengthen their hands as they squeeze and roll play dough along to music. Pre-school children are learning to problem-solve and work as a team as they build structures with large construction pieces. Staff are close by to offer support. For example, they suggest that children widen the base, so it is easier for them to reach and will prevent it from toppling on them. This helps children learn to manage potential risks and keep themselves safe.

Children learn to behave well. They learn what staff expect of them because staff provide them with simple rules and boundaries to support their good behaviour. Staff gently reinforce these rules throughout the day. Consequently, children play cooperatively with their friends and are learning to share and take turns.

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

- Leaders and managers have worked hard since their last inspection to make improvements. They have sought support from the local authority, which has successfully impacted their practice and provision. The nursery now offers good-quality care and education, and staff are committed to continuing this in the future.
- The curriculum successfully builds on what children already know and can do to help them reach the next steps in their development. Staff report they are supported well by the provider, and the curriculum training they attended has increased their confidence, enhanced their knowledge and developed their skills. This means children benefit from good-quality interactions that promote their learning effectively.
- Children benefit from a language-rich environment. Staff sing songs with children throughout the day, introduce new words during play and use visual aids to help children's understanding. This helps children, particularly children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and those who speak English as an additional language, to be good communicators.
- Staff ensure that they implement fun and engaging activities. For example, they provide toothbrushes and toothpaste, so children can practise brushing the toy dinosaurs' teeth, helping them to learn about oral health. However, staff are less

confident using spontaneous opportunities to develop children's play and extend their learning.

- Staff work positively with outside agencies to ensure that children with SEND receive individualised support at the earliest opportunity. They ensure that children are included fully in all activities and experiences. Leaders spend additional funding effectively to enhance their provision and provide additional support to meet individual children's needs.
- Inside, the staff plan an engaging environment that interests and excites children. The environment offers appropriate challenges to support children to develop a positive attitude toward learning and ensure that children are engaged. However, staff plan fewer learning opportunities outdoors. This does not fully support children who prefer to learn outside.
- Children of all ages develop an enjoyment of books. Staff provide a wide variety of books that is readily available to children. They use this to build on children's knowledge and plan activities that help engage children in the story. For example, children feel the textures of mud, grass and twigs as they follow the story being read. Staff pause as they read stories, so children can say key phrases aloud.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents give the utmost praise to the staff. They feel extremely involved and very well informed about their children's learning. Parents state their children are thriving and are making excellent progress. Staff provide resources for parents to build on their children's learning at home. For example, parents can borrow tailored home-learning packs. These are regularly made to help children with new events, such as having a new baby.

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 consistently extend and challenge children's learning during spontaneous play
- strengthen the curriculum for outdoors so that children's development is promoted more effectively across all areas of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469243
Local authority	West Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10322398
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	92
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900821
Telephone number	01604 400027
Date of previous inspection	14 November 2023

Information about this early years setting

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Northampton, Riverside registered in 2013 and is located at Riverside Business Park, Northampton. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of whom, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. 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

Charmaine Cayton

Inspection activities

- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- 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 spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.

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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