

Bunnies Preschool (Great Ashby)

Great Ashby Community Centre, Stevenage SG1 6NH



Inspection date	20 November 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Staff provide very good support to parents. They communicate effectively sharing information about children's experiences and progress. Parents appreciate the qualified and experienced team for the good-quality provision they provide for the children.
- Staff are careful about children's health. They effectively implement health plans and closely monitor children who appear unwell.
- Large-group activities are well-organised. Staff leading these are animated and successfully engage children. Other staff provide support for children helping them to participate fully.
- Key persons know their children well. All staff frequently observe children. They share the observations to provide the key person with the information they need to complete the assessments of children's progress.
- Staff work well together, new staff have been successfully integrated into the team. Staff benefit from regular time given to keep the learning journals up to date as part of monitoring children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff are too willing to provide solutions to the problems children encounter. This prevents children from thinking deeply about how to find their own solutions or using speech to express themselves.
- Staff do not discuss next steps with other settings that children attend. This potentially limits the information they have about children's overall progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching during child-initiated activities to encourage children to think deeply to find their own solutions and use speech to express themselves
- extend the partnerships with other early years settings that children attend to include next steps.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed child initiated play supported by staff and an adult-led activity and evaluated these with the leader.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the leader and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.

Inspector
Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Staff are organised and use effective systems for checking on the provision. They monitor safety aspects of the premises making sure everyone follows the procedures for taking children out of the main playroom. This helps to maintain ratios and the safety and security of the children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff complete training to help them recognise potential causes for concern. The leader and the provider check that all staff have an appropriate understanding of the setting's policies and procedures. Ongoing support through supervisory meetings and evaluation help staff reflect on further training needs and how to improve the provision for children. Staff support parents by taking the children who also attend nursery to and from the local primary school. They effectively monitor children's progress and are aware of any gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan worthwhile experiences for children. They use lots of child-initiated play that focuses on children's interests. Children are imaginative and enjoy playing hair dressers. They show that they understand how to use the play equipment as they pretend to style and dry their hair. Outside children explore their physical skills as they move across the balance buckets. Some children are careful and cautious others bound from bucket to bucket. Staff use their training in communication assessment to accurately assess children's communication and language skills. Staff provide children who cannot easily communicate their needs with the words to explain situations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models for children. They remind children about the rules for sharing and using 'kind hands' with their friends. Relationships are good. Children show that they feel secure as they enter the setting, happily saying goodbye to parents and carers. Children have plenty of time outside. Staff encourage them to dress warmly in the very cold weather and give children breaks indoors to make sure they do not get too cold. Children thoroughly enjoy the lively music and movement sessions with an external provider. There is a high level of engagement and enthusiasm for the class.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are prepared for school and most make good progress from their starting points. They learn to be independent as they put on their coats to go outside. Children enjoy the shared mealtime at the lunch club, where they sit sensibly and chat to their friends and staff as they eat. Children develop their small-muscle skills for writing as they use tools for painting and gluing. Some children show high levels of concentration as they play with the wooden trains, working out how to connect the tracks and trucks. Children participate well in story time and often choose to look at books by themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538657
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10076858
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Crossley, Rachel Anne
Registered person unique reference number	RP515776
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07562 341 589

Bunnies Preschool (Great Ashby) registered in 2016. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications, five at level 3 and two at level 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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