

Inspection date	7 September 2017
Previous inspection date	7 March 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is good

- Teaching has improved since the last inspection to ensure all children make good progress during their time in the nursery and are ready for their eventual move to school.
- Staff engage well with children to promote their settling and to develop their personal, social and emotional skills.
- The leadership of the nursery has strengthened so that there are clear lines of management and communication throughout the nursery.
- Leaders and managers have made multiple improvements to the quality of practice across the nursery, staff training has improved practice and improved children's safety.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes staff intervene too soon in children's play which disrupts child-led learning
- Some staff in the preschool room expect too much from children, especially the amount of time they can wait to take a turn. They do not resource all activities well enough so children sometimes have to wait longer than necessary for their turn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the organisation of small group activities so these are appropriately resourced so children do not have to wait longer than is necessary to take part
- support staff to better judge when to intervene in children's play and learning to enable children to follow their own ideas.

Inspection activities

- Two inspectors carried out this inspection. Both inspectors spoke to leaders and managers, staff, parents and children to gather a range of views about the nursery.
- One inspector carried out a joint observation of practice with the manager of the nursery, to gather information about staff development practices.
- Inspectors sampled a range of documentation used for the safe management of the nursery, including policies relating to safeguarding, managing behaviour and recruitment, and a range of information about staff suitability including records of checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- Inspectors observed children and staff taking part in activities indoors and outdoors.

Inspectors

Naomi Brown / Michelle Giles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have been thoroughly vetted to ensure they are suitable to work with children and understand how to identify and reports signs that children may be at potential risk. Managers use regular staff meetings and observations of practice to identify training needs. For example managers make sure staff have qualifications that are relevant to the age of the children they are caring for. Managers have improved how they monitor the quality of teaching and assessment practice, which has led to improvements to the accuracy of records of children's progress. Leaders and managers have made multiple improvements since the last inspection and all requirements are met. They have a clear understanding of areas of strength and weakness in order to continue making further improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good across the nursery. Staff in the baby room work closely with babies to encourage their emotional and social development and early language skills. Daily singing, story and rhyme sessions help babies move their bodies to the music and learn rhymes and patterns of speech. Staff plan for children's individual learning needs from when they first join, using observations of things that children can do, to build on their successes. Assessments of children's learning help staff to assess children's ongoing progress. They tackle any gaps in learning quickly to make sure all children achieve as expected for their age. Staff use planned activities such as circle times to encourage children to take turns and listen, and to ask questions that support their critical thinking. They provide opportunities for children to explore, including messy play, painting and cooking activities that help children learn how materials change as a result of their actions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the nursery and have close relationships with their key person. Staff manage any moves between rooms well so that children continue to develop confident social and emotional skills as they move on to the next stage. Rooms are laid out to meet children's needs and recent changes to the baby room have reduced incidents of minor accidents. Staff monitor children's attendance closely and have developed effective relationships with parents to promote children's emotional security. Staff encourage children to have a wide understanding of the world around them through work on local communities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children achieve as expected for their ages. They develop confident physical skills. Babies enjoy activities that develop their hand skills, helping to prepare them for early writing. All children enjoy planned sports activities, such as football skills, to support their coordination and promote team work. Pre-school children express their imaginations while painting, learning how to mix colours and exploring what happens when they use different types of brush strokes. They learn to write their names in sand, helping to link letters and sounds in preparation for early reading.

Setting details

Unique reference number	405004
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1096300
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Ashbourne Day Nurseries at Little Flyers Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP527493
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2017
Telephone number	01992 571258

Little Flyers was registered in 2001. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm.

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