

Sandhills Day Nursery (Barnt Green)

42 Sandhills Road, Barnt Green, Birmingham, West Midlands, B45 8NR



Inspection date

5 September 2016

Previous inspection date

16 October 2012

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

- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak highly of the nursery and the care and education their children receive. Staff work closely with parents and demonstrate that they value their views and opinions.
- Children have daily access to the well-equipped outside play areas where there are good opportunities for them to continue their learning outdoors. They enjoy a range of activities which helps to support their good health and physical development.
- Staff effectively plan stimulating activities for children that promote their learning. Observations, assessments and tracking of children's progress are accurate. Staff use the information from assessments to check and identify where children need additional help.
- Staff have developed good links with children's future schools. They organise visits for children to their new school and skilfully build in opportunities to talk to children about their move to school.
- Genuinely caring staff praise children and celebrate their achievements. Children form secure emotional attachments with staff and benefit greatly from the welcoming environment. Children are confident, happy and settled.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to encourage and extend children's expressive language and creative thinking skills.
- Staff do not consistently build on children's understanding of mathematical language to help them learn about position, size and shape.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to develop their expressive language and creative thinking skills
- build on children's understanding and use of mathematical language to help them learn about position, size and shape.

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 and discussed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owners and manager. She spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation form, policies and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. The management team is dedicated and has high expectations for the nursery. It closely monitors staff's performance and supports them through meetings, supervision and sharing of good practice. Staff attend a variety of training courses to extend their knowledge and improve their teaching skills. Effective evaluation procedures lead to targeted action plans and support continuous improvements. Leaders identify areas for development in their continuous drive to improve.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with a wide range of challenging and interesting activities. They successfully adapt the environment to support children's individual learning needs. Younger children develop their mobility skills as they explore their surroundings. Older children enjoy making models of insects and bugs using dough and coloured sticks. They count how many legs are on their insects and compare what they have made with pictures in a book. Younger children enjoy sensory experiences using cornflour and water mixed together. They are fascinated as they use tools and their hands to explore the mixture. Children develop good communication skills. Staff engage children in conversations about what they are doing to help them gain confidence in speaking in group situations. Children enjoy listening to their favourite stories and join in with familiar phrases.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All staff are patient with children and nurture them. They help children settle when they first start at the nursery and work well together to exchange information about children as they move between rooms. Staff work very closely with parents and share useful details about children's interests. Children are confident, happy and behave well. Staff are good role models. They teach children how to share and consider the needs of others. Children are developing an understanding of communities and the wider world. They enjoy outings to the nearby village and local woodland. They visit the train station and sometimes take the train into Birmingham to look at places of interest. Children benefit from eating a variety of freshly prepared meals and snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are very motivated to learn and eager to participate in the wide range of activities offered. All children make good progress in their learning. They make marks, learn to write recognisable letters and numbers and recognise letters and their sounds. Children are independent. They confidently make choices about what they like to do and manage their own care needs. Children develop good social skills. For example, they share and play cooperatively with each other. They learn the necessary skills in readiness for moving on to school and for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY314402
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	1059715
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 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Sandhills Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525837
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2012
Telephone number	0121 445 1235

Sandhills Day Nursery (Barnt Green) opened in 2005. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm.

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