

Inspection of The Orchards Day Nursery

36c Kneesworth Street, Roysters, Hertfordshire SG8 5AB

Inspection date: 8 November 2019

| Overall effectiveness | Outstanding |
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Babies and children thrive and flourish at this homely, nurturing nursery. They receive consistently high-quality care and exciting, meaningful learning experiences. Children are exceptionally well settled, happy and thoroughly enjoy themselves. Staff act as excellent role models for children. They are professional, kind and deeply committed to their role. Children form extremely strong bonds with staff. They are confident to seek cuddles and make choices, demonstrating that they feel safe and secure.

Staff have high expectations for children. They are extremely attentive to children's needs and provide a safe environment that helps them to develop confidence in their physical development. Leaders place a high priority on inspiring children's interest and love of reading from the start. Staff introduce children to a wide range of songs, rhymes and stories that help to broaden and build their vocabularies.

Children behave very well. They demonstrate increasing self-control as staff help them to learn to share and take turns. Staff show children the utmost respect as they play and meet children's intimate care needs. They give children lots of praise and encouragement. Children develop high levels of self-esteem and positive can-do attitudes to help them to try new things and embrace change.

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

- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. Staff provide parents with detailed information about their child's progress and next steps in learning. Parents know precisely how to support their child's ongoing learning at home. They share with staff information about their child's achievements. This highly effective two-way flow of information provides staff with an exact view of children's all-round development. This significantly contributes to the excellent rates of progress children make.
- Staff promote children's good health and safety extremely well. They share expert nutritional guidance with parents to help reduce sugar in children's diets and encourage healthy lifestyles. Freshly prepared food is carefully balanced to meet children's specific dietary needs. Staff share their knowledge with parents to help children stay safe when using the internet and digital technology at home.
- Leaders work exceptionally well with staff to nurture and develop their knowledge and skills, while maintaining a good work-life balance. Staff share that they feel very well supported to gain professional qualifications and attend training. They are enthusiastic in their role and work extremely well together, modelling respect and exemplary behaviours towards each other.
- Staff working with babies skilfully introduce them to new experiences. For

instance, babies learn about different textures as they explore paint, brushes and sponges. Staff give babies plenty of space, time and encouragement to explore. They know when babies are ready to move on from the activity and swiftly help them to clean up. Staff use songs and talk to babies as they explore, providing excellent support for their communication and language development.

- There is an extremely calm atmosphere in the nursery. Staff consistently help children to learn to respect each other and the environment. They give children age-appropriate explanations that help children to understand the impact of their actions on others.
- Children develop a strong sense of curiosity and awe about the world around them. Staff build on young children's urge to explore and provide meaningful experiences to help them make sense of the world. For instance, staff talk to children about the varied objects they bring in from autumnal walks with their parents. Children use small pumpkins, twigs and leaves to explore paint and colour. They repeat words and phrases, identifying 'orange' and 'brown' leaves.
- Staff make clear and precise assessments of children's learning and development. They intuitively adapt activities, responding to children's choice and emerging interests. Staff effortlessly weave mathematical ideas and concepts into children's play. Children begin to count confidently and identify shapes. For instance, they count five toy ducks and use play dough to form circles.
- Children enjoy outings in the local community and explore faiths and cultures that are different to their own, such as Diwali. Staff invite parents to read stories in their home languages with the children. This helps to provide children with rich experiences that help them to learn about the local and wider communities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders prioritise safeguarding children. Staff receive regular training and updates about child protection and wider safeguarding issues. Leaders encourage an open approach where staff discuss and consider the impact of findings in serious case reviews. This helps staff to enhance and develop their safeguarding practice. Staff demonstrate a very strong commitment to keep children safe. They know the possible indicators of abuse. They know precisely what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Leaders follow robust recruitment and induction processes to help ensure the suitability of adults working with children.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY456705 |
| Local authority | Hertfordshire |
| Inspection number | 10120253 |
| 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 | 0 to 2 |
| Total number of places | 38 |
| Number of children on roll | 48 |
| Name of registered person | Orchard Day Nursery Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP526460 |
| Telephone number | 01763241577 |
| Date of previous inspection | 9 May 2013 |

Information about this early years setting

The Orchards Day Nursery registered in 2012. It is one of three settings owned by a private provider. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nominated individual holds qualified teacher status, and the manager holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Gail Warnes

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager and the nominated individual, and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A joint observation was completed with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and nominated individual. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of the adults working in the setting.
- A number of parents spoke to the inspector and their views were taken account of.

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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