

Busy Bees Childcare Centre

Ministry of Defence, Administration Office, Carver Barracks, Wimbish,
SAFFRON WALDEN, Essex CB10 2YA



Inspection date	14 January 2019
Previous inspection date	11 February 2015

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

This provision is good

- The partnerships between parents, carers and staff are exceptionally strong. Staff spend time getting to know families and gather detailed information about children's needs and interests. Parents express gratitude for staff's knowledgeable support and comment favourably on 'excellent levels of communication'.
- Children quickly establish strong, emotional bonds with staff, who are warm and kind. Staff show children they value their company, which helps children to develop a good sense of confidence and trust.
- Managers and staff assess and monitor children's development effectively. They have a good understanding of which children achieve well and those who need extra help. Children of all abilities make good progress in their learning.
- Staff support children's communication and language well. They engage children in enjoyable songs and stories. Older children take part in enjoyable activities that successfully stimulate their interest in letters and the sounds they represent.
- Children develop good relationships with their peers and behave well. They have a good understanding of the importance of sharing and taking their turn. Staff consistently model calm, polite behaviour and praise children when they are kind and helpful.
- Staff's organisation of routines does not always enable children to remain focused on their self-chosen learning activities and finish what they are doing.
- Staff have not fully considered ways to make the most of the outdoor areas in order to maximise learning opportunities for children who prefer to be outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's opportunities to focus on their self-chosen activities and finish what they are doing
- extend ways to enhance learning opportunities for those children to prefer to be outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between children and adults. She evaluated the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed children during their activities indoors and outdoors. She carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector had a meeting with the manager to check management processes, including recruitment and staff training. She sampled documents, including evidence of the suitability of staff and children's learning records.
- The inspector considered the views of parents. She spoke to them and children at convenient times during the inspection.

Inspector
Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. They attend regular training and review their knowledge of wider aspects of safeguarding, such as the 'Prevent' duty, at team meetings. The manager carries out detailed checks on new staff to ensure they are suitable to work with children. There is a positive attitude toward professional development. Staff are encouraged to increase their qualifications and develop their teaching skills. Recent training on mental health awareness has increased their ability to support children as they settle in. Managers and staff evaluate the provision and gather the views of parents to identify areas for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff engage joyfully with children during their activities. They play games with the children, such as 'hide and seek' and make them laugh. Children join in lively singing games with enthusiasm and enjoy shouting the words out loud. Staff make good use of practical activities to develop children's understanding of mathematical concepts. For example, they talk to children about measuring quantities as they play in the sand. Staff share children's development information with parents and provide ideas for activities that help to support children's learning at home. Staff liaise effectively with other agencies, such as speech therapists, to provide consistent support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to celebrate their personal festivals and special events. They provide varied activities and resources that help children to learn about each other's lifestyles, faiths and customs. Children develop good levels of independence. They help themselves to drinks when they are thirsty and help to tidy away their toys. Staff talk to children about healthy lifestyles and provide a varied selection of healthy foods at snack time. Children benefit from plentiful, accessible resources that enhance their play and learning experiences, such as large-scale building blocks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make typical progress from their individual starting points. They develop the key skills they need for school. Children develop a curiosity about the world. They enjoy exploring natural materials. For example, they use magnifiers to examine seeds and cones. Older children demonstrate an interest in writing and many recognise initial letters of their names. Children love listening to stories and recall key elements with confidence. A good link with the local feeder schools helps children to transfer into Reception classes with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	650130
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10059347
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Childcare Centre Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520411
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2015
Telephone number	01799 523542

Busy Bees Childcare Centre registered in 2001 and is located in Saffron Walden, Essex. The pre-school opens each weekday during school term times. Sessions are 9am until midday, with an optional lunch club until 1pm. The pre-school provides funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school has six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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