

Inspection of Busy Bees At Blackheath (Charlton)

176 Charlton Road, LONDON SE7 7DW

Inspection date: 20 August 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and eager to start their day. Practitioners warmly welcome families as they arrive, and children settle quickly into the familiar daily routine. Practitioners use effective methods to support babies to settle. For example, they create family boxes with familiar items, such as photos, comforters and voice recordings of parents. Older children start their day with songs and garden play, this helps children to wake up their body and mind, ready for the learning ahead.

Practitioners set boundaries and role model respectful interactions. Children behave well. They play cooperatively with their friends, sharing and taking turns with toys and activities. Children demonstrate respect. They speak kindly with each other, and they help to tidy up and set up tables for lunch time. Children show high levels of confidence as they explore their environment and approach visitors. For instance, children excitedly introduce themselves to the inspector and offer her 'pink ice cream and tea' during their role play in the garden.

Children learn about the environment and their local community. They visit the local care home and put on shows for the elderly. They litter pick and participate in activities that teach them about caring for our planet. For example, children join in a sea-life activity in the water tray. They help remove rubbish from the water and animals with tweezers while speaking with a practitioner about why they must dispose of rubbish correctly.

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

- The manager and her team are passionate about delivering high quality care and education to ensure the best outcomes for children are achieved. The manager has a clear vision about what she wants children to learn and implements an ambitious curriculum that is designed to meet the needs of all children who attend.
- Practitioners know their key children well. They plan activities and learning experiences that build on their individual interests and skills. Practitioners regularly assess and review the progress children make from their starting points. These assessments support practitioners to quickly identify any gaps in their learning and development. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. Practitioners work effectively with parents and other professionals to provide targeted support to enable children to make good progress across the curriculum.
- The manager plans well to provide children with experiences they may not receive elsewhere. For example, children visit the fire station and use the local public transport, such as buses and trains. The children receive dance and yoga sessions from a teacher from an outside agency. Practitioners with their own

dance and music experience also share their skills with the children.

- There is a strong focus on promoting children's language skills. Practitioners provide a language-rich environment. They engage in high-quality interactions with children that spark meaningful conversations. However, at times, practitioners ask children questions but do not always give children enough time to be able to think and respond before they repeat or give the answer to the question.
- Practitioners support children to develop their independence well. They teach children skills, such as serving their food, pouring drinks and putting away their belongings. Practitioners encourage children to try to do things for themselves first and they praise their efforts and achievements.
- Children benefit from outdoor space that meets the needs of each age group. Children move freely and explore equipment that helps them to strengthen their muscles, such as see-saws, the slide, bikes and hoops. Children enjoy a range of healthy meals and snacks. Practitioners talk to children about healthy food during mealtimes and children comment on how 'big and strong' they are. Children of all ages are taught good hygiene routines. They learn to wash their hands before and after meals and after wiping their nose and using the toilet.
- The manager values parent's views. She gathers their views through various methods, such as a parents forum and feedback questionnaires. The manager listens to parent's suggestions and puts in place training and sessions that parents find beneficial to their specific needs. Parents report that their children are happy, safe and developing well at the nursery. However, some parents state that they do not get informative updates on their child at home time from practitioners, to further support them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- help practitioners to consistently give children time to think and respond when asking questions, to support their thinking and language skills further
- further support practitioners to improve ways that information is shared with parents so they are well informed about their children's time at the nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551843
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	10356576
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	99
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900821
Telephone number	01543 678530
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

Busy Bees at Blackheath (Charlton) registered in 2017. It is situated in Charlton, in the London Borough of Greenwich. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the year. The nursery employs 28 staff; 21 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Katie Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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