

Inspection of Dimples Stainton Day Nursery

The Annexe, Sporting Lodge, Low Lane, Middlesbrough TS17 9LW

Inspection date: 23 September 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff offer a calm, nurturing and caring environment for children. Babies thrive in the nursery and staff know how to meet their care needs swiftly. Toddlers enjoy a wide range of stimulating activities, which are based on their interests. They show confidence in accessing resources and develop good levels of independence. Staff who work with older children help them develop the skills they need to start school. Children begin to develop good levels of concentration and show interest in familiar stories. Staff are good role models for children. They teach them how to be kind, respectful and helpful. Children's behaviour is positive and they demonstrate good social skills.

The manager and staff team are passionate about their work with children and families. During the pandemic, staff created videos to read to children and kept in touch with parents to offer support. Children benefit from a gradual settling-in process and staff gather detailed information about them. This helps them to feel safe and secure. Staff teach children how to stay safe and develop their awareness of risk. For instance, they explain why they need to check the outdoor area before children use this space.

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

- The curriculum is exciting and interesting for children. Staff use their knowledge of children's current stages of development to help them build secure foundations for future learning. For example, babies delight as they explore jelly in small bags. Staff model key words to them and then later extend this to sensory play in the tray outdoors.
- Experiences for toddlers are exemplary. Children develop exceptional levels of concentration and independence. They use the toilet independently and take an active part in their own self-care. Staff help children to develop excellent communication and language skills. Children thoroughly enjoy singing in the group, they demonstrate listening and attention skills that are higher than typically expected for their age.
- Staff have high expectations for all children who attend and work alongside other professionals to promote continuity for children. For instance, they create detailed learning plans for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. However, on occasion, staff do not use the agreed strategies to consistently support older children.
- Staff encourage children to develop a love of books from an early age. Babies carefully turn pages as staff read to them. Older children thoroughly enjoy story time with staff. They repeat familiar phrases from the story and respond to staff's open questions to share their ideas. Staff praise them for their efforts and children show pride in their achievements.

- Children's good health is promoted. They benefit from healthy, freshly cooked meals and have access to fresh water throughout the day. Staff teach them about the importance of washing hands and there are plenty of opportunities for fresh air outdoors. Staff provide quiet spaces for babies and young children to sleep. This has a positive impact on children's emotional well-being and they show they feel happy and settled.
- Staff say they feel valued by the management team. They have access to a wide range of training and are encouraged to share ideas and suggestions. The manager promotes staff's well-being. She has an open-door policy and provides support in each room of the nursery on a daily basis.
- The manager and staff team work hard to drive forward continual improvements. For instance, they are currently developing the outdoor area to help staff provide a broad curriculum outdoors as well as indoors. The team regularly evaluate their practice and have introduced new ways to plan experiences, so they are more child-centred.
- Partnerships are highly effective. Staff regularly share detailed information with parents about their children's development and care. This helps to promote continuity and consistency for children. Parents are very complimentary about the staff team and the care their children receive. They comment on how much they value the support given during difficult times and the inclusivity of the nursery.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety is prioritised in the nursery. Staff complete regular risk assessments and fire drills to ensure areas are safe for children and emergency procedures are effective. The manager ensures staff have an in-depth understanding of potential signs of abuse and child protection procedures. Staff are confident in discussing wider safeguarding issues, such as county lines. They know the action to take if they have concerns about children's welfare or staff's practice. The manager follows robust recruitment procedures to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. She monitors their ongoing suitability through regular supervision and appraisal meetings.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on existing strategies to further enhance support for older children with special educational needs and/or disabilities
- enhance staff's teaching in the outdoor environment to maximise children's learning across all seven areas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2602161
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10254361
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 5
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	116
Name of registered person	Bright Sparks Led Nursery Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP550412
Telephone number	01642227778
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Dimples Stainton Day Nursery registered in 2020 and is situated in Stainton near Yarm. The nursery employs 15 members childcare staff, the majority of whom have relevant early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager has a level 3 qualification in early years. Both directors hold a PGCE in teaching. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year old children. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities attend.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Lorains

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation was completed by the manager and inspector indoors, during an experience for older children.
- The inspector held a discussion with manager and provider in relation to the leadership and management of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of recruitment, staff's qualifications and their suitability to work with children.
- The inspector spoke to parents and obtained verbal and written feedback for the inspection.

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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