

Inspection of Millie's House

39 Woodlands Avenue, New Malden KT3 3UL

Inspection date: 2 May 2025

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

Staff show passion for ensuring children feel emotionally secure in their care. They work closely with children's families and take a personalised approach when settling children and planning for their individual needs. This ensures that children quickly form strong bonds with staff and feel happy and safe at nursery. Staff plan a well-thought-out curriculum around children's interests and next steps. They make effective use of assessments to ensure all children make the expected progress.

Children behave well and show respect for one another. Staff instil a 'You can do it' attitude in children as they encourage them to give things a try first before offering them assistance. Staff are incredibly positive and use stickers and 'high fives' to offer children praise and encouragement as they learn through their play. Children fully understand the importance of good manners. For example, they use language such as 'excuse me' when someone is in their way and 'can I have some more please?' when enjoying their lunch.

Children respond well to the many opportunities on offer to develop their independence skills. They chop their own fruit for snack time, pour their own drinks and serve themselves food during mealtimes. They organise their own belongings on their pegs and dress themselves appropriately for outdoor play. The low-level furniture in all rooms allows children, including babies, to easily and independently select what they would like to play with.

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

- Careful consideration is given to ensuring children develop physically. Babies have plenty of floor space to practise their crawling and walking. Toddlers enjoy climbing on, up and over apparatus. Older children practise their skills in riding bikes and navigating a track, balancing on stepping stones and throwing and catching large balls. All children enjoy the daily opportunities for exploring the local area on trips out with their friends.
- The nursery promotes a love for reading and staff carefully use sensory activities to bring stories to life. For example, children enjoy splashing in water, squelching their feet in mud and feeling the texture of grass under their feet as they are read the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. All rooms are equipped with cosy reading areas and children enjoy independently selecting their own books. Staff use flash cards and model initial letter sounds to support children as they begin to recognise the printed words within books.
- Children fully understand staff's expectations for their behaviour at nursery. For example, children tidy up when asked, sit for circle times, line up when their name is called for outdoor play and listen carefully to their friends when sharing

the adventures of 'Super Ted'. Children show high levels of respect for each other, play together well and offer each other help when needed.

- There is a range of exciting activities on offer for all ages of children to engage with. Careful consideration is given to planning to ensure all children have access to opportunities to develop their skills within all areas of the early years foundation stage curriculum. On the whole, most staff are clear on the intended learning behind the planned activities and support children well. However, there are times when some staff need further coaching in this area. In addition, some staff need help with understanding when to offer children extra support to ensure they can maximise their potential learning opportunities.
- Parents speak enthusiastically about how much their children enjoy nursery and the high level of nurturing that staff offer. They are fully informed about their children's progress and are given ideas to help at home. They feel that staff are knowledgeable, know their children well and ensure they are ready for their next stages in learning, including starting school.
- Leaders work closely with staff to ensure they are supported emotionally and have plenty of opportunities to develop professionally. Staff attend supervision meetings, staff meetings and a range of training opportunities, both online and in person. Effective use of partnership working with the local authority and external agencies ensures that all children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make the expected progress.

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:

- support some staff further to fully understand what they are intending children to learn
- support some staff further with understanding when to intervene with extra support, to ensure children maximise their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540154
Local authority	Kingston upon Thames
Inspection number	10380548
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 at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	84
Number of children on roll	97
Name of registered person	South West London Nursery Company Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904378
Telephone number	01293772561
Date of previous inspection	13 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

Millie's House registered in 2017 and is part of the South West London Nursery Company Limited. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks a year. The setting employs 16 members of staff. Of these, one member of staff has qualified teacher status, three hold level 5 qualifications, one holds level 4, eight staff hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery receives early years funding.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Penny Harman

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the setting and discussed the nursery's curriculum offer.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to staff during the inspection about their training and knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The manager showed the inspector relevant documentation on request.
- The manager and inspector engaged in a leadership and management meeting.

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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