

Inspection of Sunny Days Nursery (Birth - 5 Years)

Ridgeway Primary School, Grange Road, Burntwood WS7 4TU

Inspection date: 18 July 2024

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

Children express that they are comfortable at this welcoming and well-equipped nursery. They settle quickly on arrival and are easily comforted by the friendly and nurturing staff team. Children are sociable and confident. They happily play alongside staff and their peers. Children demonstrate that they are familiar with nursery routines. They are cooperative, follow simple instructions and listen well. Staff have high expectations of all children and support them to understand key rules of the nursery, which contributes to children's positive behaviours.

Staff get to know children very well and ensure that their individual needs are met. They provide children with an abundance of activities that motivate and interest them, focusing on the skills they need to learn next. The broad and ambitious curriculum supports children to consistently display high levels of engagement and enthusiasm. In particular, children benefit from lots of opportunities that support their physical development. Babies thoroughly enjoy sensory experiences as they explore flour in an activity tray and make marks using a range of tools. Toddlers become engrossed as staff encourage them to roll out dough and carefully hide 'treasure'. Pre-school children take great pride as they work together with their peers to fill containers with sand and showcase their sandcastles.

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

- The nursery has recently recruited a number of new staff as the provision has expanded. New staff have benefited from a thorough induction period, and they understand their roles and responsibilities well. Overall, leaders have clear arrangements in place for staff supervision, which help to promote positive outcomes for children. However, leaders recognise that some newer staff require further opportunities to build on their confidence of delivering the well-sequenced curriculum to the highest level.
- Staff plan a vast range of exciting adult-led and child-initiated learning opportunities. They are passionate about ensuring that children acquire all of the knowledge they need for their eventual transition to school. Staff are skilled at identifying any gaps in children's development at the earliest opportunity. They work collaboratively with the special educational needs and/or disabilities coordinator, external agencies and families to ensure that any children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported effectively. Because of this timely support, children with SEND make good progress alongside their peers.
- Overall, teaching throughout the nursery is good. In some instances, particularly with those staff working with toddlers, practice is extremely strong. However, at times, some newer staff working with younger children do not consistently provide children with opportunities to explore and test their own ideas. For

example, they occasionally over direct children's learning during craft activities. This prevents younger children from fully developing their critical thinking skills.

- Staff place a strong focus on children's communication, language and literacy development. They meaningfully interact with children and carefully introduce new words to build on their vocabulary. Staff skilfully use open-ended questions to further build on children's language skills. Books are an integral part of the nursery's curriculum. This supports children to develop a love for reading from an early age.
- Children demonstrate positive attitudes towards their learning. They thoroughly enjoy spending time outdoors. Younger children benefit from regular fresh air, and eat healthy snacks outside. Older children have lots of opportunities to exercise their large muscles as they run, balance and pedal tricycles. This contributes to children's enjoyment of healthy lifestyles.
- Staff encourage children to become independent and take appropriate risks. Children enjoy having a go at trying things for themselves. Children confidently navigate an obstacle course in the garden and are supervised well by staff, who offer lots of praise and reassurance. This supports children to become resilient and learn to manage their own risks.
- Parent partnerships are a strength of the nursery. Staff recognise the importance of working with parents, and they share regular updates about children's interests and development. Parents comment that they are extremely happy with the nursery. They add that staff develop remarkable bonds with children and support them to learn key life skills, such as patience and kindness.

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:

- build on the existing supervision and support systems to further boost the confidence, knowledge and skills of newer staff in delivering the high-quality curriculum
- provide younger children with more opportunities to fully explore and test their own ideas in order to enhance their critical thinking skills further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2683651
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10355508
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	78
Number of children on roll	143
Name of registered person	Primitas Learning Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	2683652
Telephone number	01543 227168
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Sunny Days Nursery registered in 2022 and is located in Burntwood, Staffordshire. It employs 37 members of childcare staff. Of these, 24 hold approved early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7am until 6pm, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and one week at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dale Ramsey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- A member of the leadership team and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with a member of the leadership team.
- The inspector took account of parents' views and opinions of the nursery.
- The nominated individuals, leadership team and inspector spoke about the leadership and management of the nursery.

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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