

Inspection of Bearhugs Nurseries Ltd

27 Market Place, Tattershall, Lincoln, Lincolnshire LN4 4LJ

Inspection date: 21 October 2021

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 positively thrive and flourish in this home-from-home, family feel nursery. Pre-school children hold articulate conversations. They befriend and show an interest in visitors and are confident to ask questions, such as 'what's your name?' Children talk about what they like to play with and say, 'my favourite bit is playing in the big garden'. Babies initially show anxiety when visitors come into their room. However, they quickly feel safe and secure within the room and begin to accept visitors, when comforted by familiar, caring staff.

Pre-school children develop good independence skills. When they attempt to put on their shoes they say, 'I can't do it'. Children respond positively to staff's encouragement to keep trying. They succeed and show good levels of self-esteem and confidence and are proud of their achievements. Children's behaviour and levels of patience are impressive. They learn about the nursery rules and boundaries and what is expected of them. Children are kind and friendly towards each other. For example, when babies pass through a room to access outdoor play they are greeted with a big hug from their sibling.

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

- The manager is ambitious about providing quality care and education for all children. Staff report high levels of well-being and feel very well supported by the manager. Both parents and staff are encouraged to share their views and ideas. For example, when a parent expressed a concern about the menu being too 'sweet orientated', these were assessed and amended. This shows parent's views are listened to and taken on board and also helps to promote a healthy eating regime for children.
- The curriculum for each age group is well planned and sequenced. Staff recognise what children know and how they want them to progress. For example, babies explore and investigate the texture of paint. Toddlers develop their listening and attention skills in small group singing times. Pre-school children are encouraged to explore the different habitats animals live in to extend their knowledge of the wider world and nature. Any gaps in children's learning are identified and appropriate interventions are implemented.
- Staff play alongside children and remind them to share resources. For example, with support, younger pre-school aged children's social skills develop as they take it in turns to build with bricks. Children spend long periods of time happily engaged and persevering to build a house using small bricks.
- Staff make sure children get plenty of fresh air and exercise in the well-used, inviting garden spaces. Children develop a good sense of responsibility for their own health, welfare and safety. Pre-school children negotiate the outdoor area on wheeled toys. They stop and wait for their friends to be out of the way

before they proceed through a puddle. Toddlers learn the correct steps needed for washing and drying their hands. Older children know and follow this routine with little prompting. Babies copy staff, using a towel to clean the table after the painting activity.

- Staff interact with, and play alongside, children as they explore. Children demonstrate curiosity and enthusiasm in their play. For example, toddlers use their small motor skills and master using pipettes to suck up water in an outdoor tray. However, occasionally, some staff's interactions with children are not precisely focused on what they need to learn next, such as by expanding their knowledge.
- Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the manager and staff, through discussions with parents, know children have been limited in their social interactions with children of all ages. Consequently, they make sure the children broaden their experiences by playing with all age groups as often as possible.
- A strength of the nursery is the partnerships with parents and carers. Parents express their thoughts and comment very positively on their children's experiences in the nursery. They value the information staff share with them about their children's day and the ideas for learning they can provide at home. This contributes to children continuing their learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have good knowledge of child protection issues and they are clear about their roles of safeguarding children. The manager and staff can recognise if a child is at risk of harm and any concerns are acted upon promptly and appropriately. Safety of the building is good. Staff ensure the door is locked as soon as children arrive and remains locked throughout the session. This means no one can enter uninvited and children cannot leave unsupervised. There are robust recruitment and vetting procedures in place to help assess the suitability of staff. There is an effective process to ensure ongoing staff suitability.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance staff's skills and knowledge so that they can use their interactions to further introduce challenge and extend the knowledge of children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2529975
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10208432
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 9
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Bearhugs Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2529973
Telephone number	01526 344885
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Bearhugs Nurseries Ltd registered in 2019. They are in Tattershall, Lincolnshire. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including two who hold an early years degree, including the manager. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

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 manager and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the nursery.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Staff and children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation together.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and took account of written feedback offered.

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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