

Building Blocks

St. Barnabus Church, 69 Higher Drive, Purley, Surrey, CR8 2HR



Inspection date

23 January 2018

Previous inspection date

13 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager and staff observe children's play regularly and accurately assess their individual development. They plan a wide range of activities that effectively supports children's interests and developmental next steps. Children receive good support in their learning and make good progress from their starting points.
- The manager and staff provide a positive and welcoming environment where children feel happy, relaxed and secure. They have high expectations and provide children with consistent and sensitive support to help guide their good behaviour. Children fully understand and respect the pre-school rules, and are kind and considerate of others around them.
- Children enthusiastically join in singing traditional songs and remember the words and actions confidently. They develop a good understanding of rhythm and rhyme.
- Partnerships with parents are good and staff keep them fully informed of their children's development. They regularly invite parents into the pre-school to discuss children's current achievements and how best to support further learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the manager monitors the progress of groups of children, she does not consistently share this information with staff to help close any gaps in learning rapidly.
- At times, staff do not make the most of their interactions with children to offer the highest levels of challenge to support their best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of information gained from monitoring the progress of groups of children to help close any gaps in learning rapidly
- make the most of staff interactions with children to offer the highest levels of challenge in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the pre-school's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager supervises her staff well and effectively supports their continued professional development. She regularly observes their practice and offers good support and guidance. Staff visit other local settings to share good practice and gain new ideas. This has led them to improve their planning recently to help further meet children's interests, and staff now work together to contribute to the needs of their key children. The manager and staff evaluate the effectiveness of the pre-school well and continually identify areas for further improvement. For example, they have recently created a new area to help better meet the needs of two-year-old children. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are up to date with current legislation and fully understand their responsibility to protect children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and plan enjoyable experiences linked to their current interests. For example, children excitedly explore a well-resourced role-play crèche. They confidently take care of baby dolls, rocking them to sleep, changing their nappies and taking them for walks in toy buggies. Staff successfully engage children during group activities and children share their ideas eagerly. For example, they confidently discuss the weather of the day and what clothing they might need to keep warm, such as 'ear muffs'. Staff support children's mathematical skills successfully. For instance, children work together to count how many of them are in today and how many there would be if one more child arrives. They confidently recognise numbers and shapes, and compare sizes as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind, caring and attentive to all children's needs. They offer them consistent praise and encouragement, and successfully support their secure emotional well-being. Children are confident and form strong bonds with staff and each other, showing positive social skills. For example, during their healthy snack time, children happily ask others what they want to eat and drink, and make sure they have what they need. Children thoroughly enjoy the responsibility of being 'special helpers' and develop good independence. Children have regular access to a well-resourced outdoor area and take part in plenty of active play and exercise. For example, they enjoy practising 'gymnastics' and confidently talk about their hearts beating faster after exercising.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated learners and quickly gain the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and for school. They are very imaginative and creative, and enjoy leading their own play. Children communicate confidently and express themselves with ease. Children recognise their name and some letter sounds of importance. They are beginning to give good detail to their drawings and can form some recognisable letters. Children enjoy listening to stories and enthusiastically talk about what might happen next.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429584
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1094922
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Play Place Child Care Services Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901701
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2015
Telephone number	0208 660 5055

Building Blocks registered in 2011. It operates each weekday between 9.30am and 3pm, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four staff, all of whom have appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and level 3.

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