

Gill Blowers Nursery School

1 Mossdale Court, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU4 9JL



Inspection date 19 September 2017
Previous inspection date 20 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children's well-being and safety is a high priority. The staff work with other agencies, including the on-site children's centre, to ensure that all children receive any extra support they need. This means that children feel safe and secure and are able to focus on play and learning while at nursery.
- Staff support communication and language development of children very well. For instance, they use lots of repetition of words, talk to the children about what they are doing and model new words to extend their vocabulary.
- Staff plan a wide variety of experiences for children and support their learning effectively. For example, in the home corner children use safety knives to butter bread.
- Babies and toddlers make good progress from their starting points, including those who start nursery below age related expectations. The manager uses information about children's learning to monitor the educational programme to ensure learning experiences accurately reflect children's interests and stages of development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities during spontaneous play to further extend children's curiosity and imagination skills.
- Staff occasionally do not give children the opportunity to understand how to keep themselves safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop staff teaching skills and knowledge further to build on children's curiosity during spontaneous play
- increase children's understanding of safety by providing opportunities for them to take responsibility for managing risks during everyday activities.

Inspection activities

- The nursery school is located over two sites known as the Mossdale and Leabank sites. Day care is provided on the Mossdale site for children up to two years old.
- This inspection was conducted in parallel to a school inspection. The nursery school is inspected and reported on separately.
- This early years inspection focused on the provision of children from birth to two years old.
- The inspector held joint discussions with the head teacher in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector observed general play and routines in the day care rooms of the nursery school. She talked with the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the deputy head teacher.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of staff members, and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and took their views into account.

Inspector

Elke Rockey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about safeguarding and wider child protection issues. They know how to identify concerns and report these to the relevant agencies to help to protect children from harm. Recruitment processes are robust ensuring suitable adults work with children. The staff team is established and well qualified. While staff receive regular supervisions and feedback about their practise, this is not always as targeted as possible to develop their best teaching skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Young children explore available resources to their satisfaction. This helps develop their concentration skills. For instance, staff describe the texture of conkers and their shells as children feel them. Staff encourage children's love of books and reading across the age range. Babies choose to look through books and handle them carefully. Staff read books that contain the familiar phrases that children enjoy repeating. These are made more exciting to the children as they take turns to use the props linked with the story. Staff know children well and use their knowledge to make accurate assessments. They plan effectively for children's individual learning and provide challenging and stimulating activities. Staff encourage parents to support their children's learning at home through take home activities. This involvement supports young children's good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to build attachments through a gradual settling in process. This includes a home visit where the key person begins to form relationships with the family and also the child. Staff continue to work with parents. For example, they discuss with parents the importance of children attending nursery on a regular basis. The nursery environment is welcoming and organised efficiently to enable children to follow their play choices. Children display good behaviour because they are able to explore activities and staff give them secure boundaries. Staff develop children's confidence and sense of belonging very well. Children have a good understanding of the routines and are excited about what to expect throughout the day. Staff praise children for their efforts and achievements. As a result, young children independently carry out tasks, such as putting on their boots and coats. Children spend time outside using a variety of equipment to develop their whole bodies. Staff ensure areas are safe by checking the premises and equipment daily.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are gaining the skills they need for the next stage in their learning. Children are confident, sociable and become increasingly independent. Staff use group times with young children effectively. For example, children join in singing songs while staff support them to stay focused. They wait patiently until it is their turn to put their named photograph on the register board. Children learn to count accurately as staff encourage them to use their fingers to represent the amount of each number.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285590
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	1110977
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	Gill Blowers Nursery School Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP522913
Date of previous inspection	20 February 2014
Telephone number	01582 575100

Gill Blowers Nursery School was registered in 1999 and is on the Early Years Register. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, from 8am until 6pm. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently 16 children attending who are within the early years age range. The nursery provides funded early education for two year old children. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. The head teacher is a qualified teacher. All other staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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